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KING ALFREDS
ANGLO-SAXON
VERSION
OF THE METRES
OF BOETHIUS.

BY THE
REV. S. FOX, M. A.

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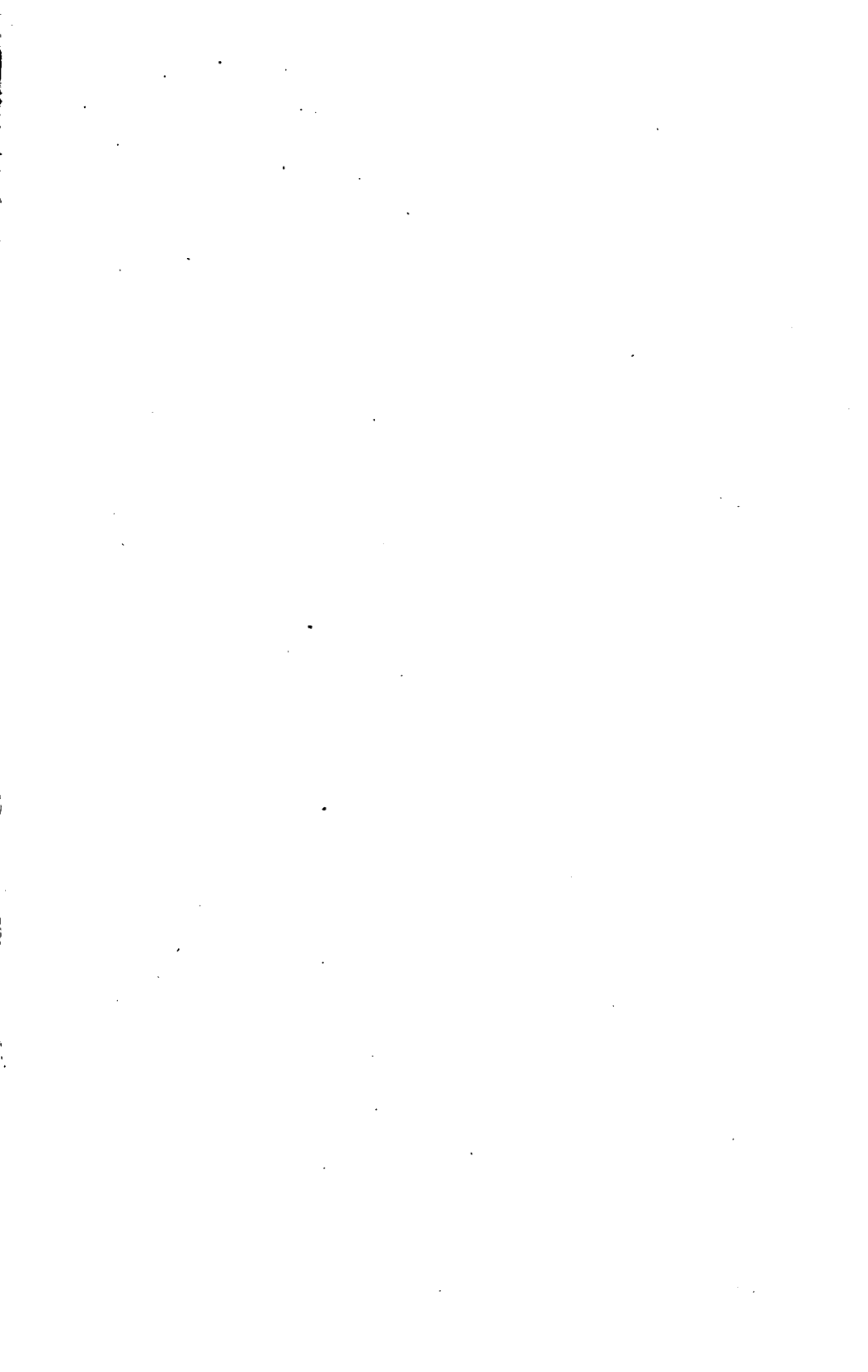


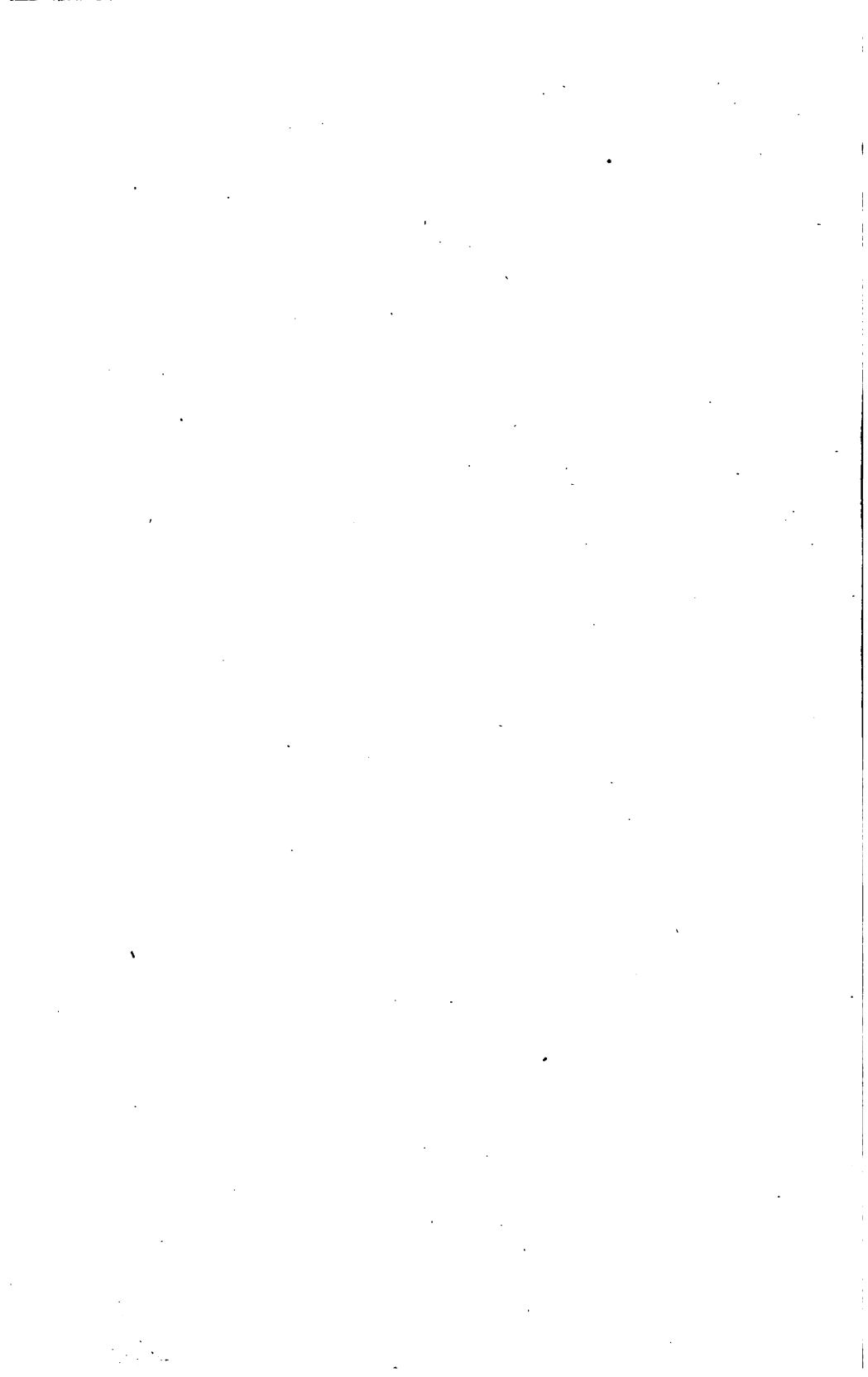
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KING ALFRED'S

ANGLO-SAXON VERSION OF THE METRES

OF

BOETHIUS,

WITH

AN ENGLISH TRANSLATION, AND NOTES;

BY

THE REV. SAMUEL FOX, M. A.

OF PEMBROKE COLLEGE, OXFORD;

TRANSLATOR OF THE POETICAL CALENDAR OF THE ANGLO-SAXONS.

LONDON :

WILLIAM PICKERING, CHANCERY LANE :

J. H. PARKER; AND WILLIAM GRAHAM, OXFORD: AND

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PREFACE.

THE increasing taste for Saxon literature rendering it desirable that those works which contain the purest specimens of the language of our forefathers should be made accessible to every student, I have been induced to complete that which was so ably commenced by J. S. Cardale, Esq.; but, at the same time, I cannot avoid expressing my unfeigned regret, that this portion of the work did not fall into those hands, which proved their competency to the task, by the publication of a correct and elegant edition of the prose part of King Alfred's version of Boethius.

The only complete printed edition of the Anglo-Saxon version of the Metres of Boethius is that of

Rawlinson, which was printed in Oxford in the year MDCXCVIII; and the only manuscript of this work, at present known to be in existence, is the transcript which Junius made from a Cottonian one, which was afterwards destroyed in the unfortunate fire when so many Cottonian MSS. fell a prey to the devouring element. The transcript is preserved among the Junian MSS. in the Bodleian Library, Oxford; and the edition of Rawlinson merely professes to be a correct copy of it; and it certainly is extremely correct in this respect; for having carefully collated Rawlinson with the manuscript of Junius, I found so few and such trifling typographical errors, as to render it unnecessary to notice them. In the present edition I found it requisite to alter the reading of a few words; and as the manuscript of Junius was prior to Rawlinson's edition, the reference in the alteration of the reading, when it occurs, is made to it, and the alterations will all be found acknowledged in the notes.

The ancient Anglo-Saxon manuscript of Boethius in the Bodleian Library, merely contains the prose.

Although both Junius and Rawlinson are deserving of the highest praise for the correctness

of their readings, they are not entitled to the same for the accuracy of their metrical punctuation. In their days the principles of Saxon versification were scarcely known; and while one party saw, what they fancied was an elaborate system in imitation of the Greek and Latin metres, another party who could not discover this, concluded that there was no system at all. For the subsequent discoveries we are chiefly indebted to Rask. When, however, we consider the difficulties which men like Junius, Rawlinson, and Hickes, had to contend with, the errors which they committed ought to be forgotten in grateful admiration of what they actually accomplished.

Alliteration is now ascertained, beyond all doubt, to be the chief characteristic of Saxon verse; and this is also accompanied with a rhythm which clearly distinguishes it from prose; but in many parts of these Metres, as they stand in Junius and Rawlinson, there is neither alliteration nor rhythm; to say nothing of the obscurity which arises from this faulty collocation. It has, therefore, been my endeavour in this edition to restore the text to what I conceive to have been its original purity, by preserving the alliteration and rhythm; and by this change in the punctuation,

the sense of passages which before was in many places doubtful, is become clear and obvious. This alteration, as it is merely a change in the punctuation without any variation in the original orthography, will not, I trust, be considered an unpardonable liberty. There is, as I have observed, no manuscript of the Metres of Boethius extant, besides a transcript of Junius; and as Junius has been convicted of faulty punctuation in a transcript which he made of Cædmon,* and as many passages in these Metres are totally devoid of all claim to verse as they stand in his copy, while the change which has been made in the present edition for the most part restores their poetical form, it is not too much to suppose that this work has also suffered from the inaccuracy of Junius. Rawlinson faithfully following him, of course preserved all his errors. The continuous lines in which the ancient MSS. are written, the verses being merely divided by a point, rendered inaccuracies like those here complained of highly probable.

The change in punctuation occurring very frequently, it would be tedious to remark upon

* Vide p. xiv. of Preface to Thorpe's edition of Cædmon; a work which cannot be too highly estimated by the Saxon student.

every case; the reader is, therefore, referred to Rawlinson's edition, if he question the correctness of the present text. As it has been my desire to present a pure and correct edition of the Saxon text, I hope those who differ with me in opinion will consider the difficulty as well as importance of the undertaking.

There are no accents in the Junian manuscript, and I have not introduced any into this volume, as I have great doubts of their being admissible, unless they occur in ancient MSS. Whenever this is the case, I acknowledge their great importance.

With regard to my translation, I fear exceptions will be taken to some parts of it. I have endeavoured to give a literal version, and at the same time to preserve in the translation a portion of the rythm which is found in the Saxon; and where failures exist, they arise rather from the difficulty of the passage, than from a want of diligence in making the translation correct.

For remarks on the general character of the Anglo-Saxon version of Boethius, I would refer the reader to the prose edition before mentioned, to which this volume is intended as a supplement. I beg to offer my sincere acknowledgments

to J. S. Cardale, Esq. and B. Thorpe, Esq. F. A. S. to whose friendship and assistance I am deeply indebted.

With these prefatory remarks the Metres of Boethius are presented to the public; and it is the Editor's earnest wish, that each succeeding publication of the remains of our early authors will stimulate the desire to rescue from the corroding hand of time these interesting relics of former ages.

THE METRES OF
BOETHIUS.

INTRODUCTION.

Ður Ælfred ur.
eald-ƿell neahte.
Lýning ƿest-rexna.
cƿært melbode.
leoð-ƿýhta lýt.
Ðim ƿær lýt micel.
þæt he þiorrum leodum.
leoð ƿellode.
monnum mýrgen.
mýrice cƿiðar.
þý lær ælínge.
utaðriſe.
relſicne rec.
þonne he ƿelcer lýt.
gýmð ƿon hýr gýlpe.
Ic ƿeal giet ƿƿecan.
ƿon on ƿitte.
ƿolc-cuðne ƿæð.
hæleþum ƿecgean.
hlýte ƿe þe ƿille.

THUS Alfred to us
An ancient story related;
The King of the West-Saxons
Displayed *his* art,
5 *His* poetic skill.
To him was great desire,
That he to these nations
Should teach poetry,
The delight of men,
10 Various sayings;
Lest weariness
Should reject
The self-same speech.
But he thereby little
15 Cares for his own glory.
I will nevertheless speak,
Begin a song,
A discourse known to nations,
To men will speak,
20 Attend who will.



METRE I.

Ðit pær geara 10.
þætte Gotan eartan.
of Scīðia.
rceldar læddon.
þneate geþrungon.
þeod-lond monig.
retton ruðpearðer.
rige-þeoda tpa.
Gotene rice.
gear-mælum peox.
hæpðan him gecýnde.
cýningar tpezen.
Ræðgod and Alepic.
rice geþungon.
Ða pær ofer muntgrop. 15
monig atýhted.
Gota gýlper full.
guðe gelyfted.
polc-geþinner.
pana hpearfode.

It was long ago,
That *the* eastern Goths
From Scythia,
Led *their* armies,
5 Oppressed with troops,
Many nations.
They established southward,
Two victorious nations;
The kingdoms of the Goths
10 Yearly increased;
They had of *their* own race
Two kings,
Rhadgast and Alaric,
Who obtained the supreme power.
15 Then was over *the* Alps
Many a Goth allured,
Full of arrogance,
Desirous of *the* conflict,
Of *the* battle-fray.
20 *The* banner waved

ƿcƿ on ƿceafte.	Bright on <i>the</i> shaft;
ƿceotend þohton.	Appeared shooting
Italia.	Italy
ealle ^a ƿegongan.	All through .
lind-ƿigende.	25 <i>The</i> warriors with shields,
hƿgelærtan.	Heedless of <i>danger</i> ;
ƿƿua efne ƿnom muntƿiop.	Even from the Alps,
oð þone mæƿan ƿeapnoð.	To that illustrious shore,
þær Sicilia.	Where Sicily
ƿæ-ƿtƿeamum	30 In the sea streams,
in eƿlond micel.	A mighty island nation
eþel mæƿrað.	Is celebrated.
Ða ƿær Romana.	Then was <i>the</i> empire
ƿice ƿepunnen.	Of <i>the</i> Romans conquered,
abƿocen hunƿa cƿƿt.	35 <i>The</i> city's splendour spoiled.
beadu-ƿincum ƿær.	By <i>the</i> soldiers was
Rom ƿerƿmed.	Rome laid open;
Ræðƿot and Aleƿic.	Rhadgast and Alaric
ƿoron on þæt ƿærten.	Went into the citadel;
ƿleah Cærepe. ^b	40 <i>Cæsar</i> fled
mið þam æþelingum.	With the princes
ut on Eƿecar.	Out to the Greeks. [not
Ne meahƿe þa ƿeo ƿea laƿ.	Then the miserable remnant could
ƿiƿe ƿorƿtandan.	Withstand in battle,
Eotan mið ƿuðe.	45 <i>The</i> Goths in <i>the</i> conflict;
ƿio monna ƿerƿƿion.	The former wealth of men

^a M S. ealla.

^b Cærepe in these metres simply denotes the highest regal power.

realdon unpillum.
 eþel pearðar.
 halige aþar.
 pærƿ gehpæþeneƿ paa.
 Ðeah pær mago-ƿinca.
 mod mid Ērecum.
 ƿiƿ hi leod-ƿnuman.
 lærtan doƿrten.
 Stod þraƿe on þam.
 þeod pær ƿepunnen.
 ƿintra mænigo.
 oð þæt ƿýnð ƿerƿnar.
 þæt þe þeodriče.
 þegnar and eoƿlar.
 heƿan ƿceoldan.
 ƿær ƿe Ðenetema,
 Ēriƿte ƿecnoden.
 cýning ƿelfa onƿeng.
 ƿulluht þearum.
 Fægnodon ealle.
 Romƿara beapn.
 and him ƿecene to.
 ƿriþer ƿilnedon.
 Ðe him ƿærte ƿehet.
 þæt hý eald-ƿihta.
 ælceƿ moƿten.
 ƿýnþe ƿepuniƿen.
 on þære ƿelegan hýriƿ.
 þenden Ēod ƿoulde.

Unwillingly gave up
 The guardians of *their* country :
 Sacred oaths *were broken* :
 50 Everywhere was woe.
 Yet was *the* mind
 Of *the* citizens with *the* Greeks
 If they leaders
 Dared to follow.
 55 *The* course of time in which
The people were subdued,
 Was many a winter ;
 Until that fate ordained,
 That Theodoric,
 60 Thanes and earls
 Should obey.
 The chieftain was
 Dedicated to Christ ;
The king himself received
 65 *The* rite of baptism.
The children of *the* Romans
 All rejoiced,
 And with him straight
 Desired peace.
 70 He to them firmly promised,
 That they of each
 Of their ancient rights,
 Should remain possessed,
 In that wealthy city,
 75 While God would,

þæt he Grodena gepealð.	That he <i>the</i> power of the Goths
agan morfe.	Should have.
He þæt eall aleaz.	He all that retracted;
pær þæm æþelinge.	To the prince
Appianef.	80 The Arian heresy
gedpola leofpe.	Was more pleasing,
þonne Drihtnes æ.	Than <i>the</i> law of <i>the</i> Lord.
Het Iohanner.	<i>He</i> commanded John,
godne Papan.	The good pope,
heafde beheapon.	85 To be beheaded:
nær þ̅ hærlíc dæd.	That was not a laudable deed;
eac þam pær unrim.	Besides, there was countless
oðres manes.	Wickedness of other kinds,
þ̅ se Gota fremede.	Which the Goth perpetrated,
godra gehwílum.	90 <i>Against</i> every one of <i>the</i> good.
Ða pær nícra sum.	Then was a certain noble,
on Rome býrig.	In Rome's city,
aheren Heretoga.	Appointed consul,
hlafordes leof.	Dear to <i>his</i> lord,
þenden Lyncertole.	95 While <i>the</i> Greeks
Lreacas woldon.	Possessed <i>the</i> metropolis.
Ðæt pær rihtwīs ninc.	He was a righteous man.
pær ^c mid Rompanum.	<i>He</i> was among the Romans
ninc-geofa jella.	A bestower of gifts.
riðþan longe he.	100 Long since he
pær for weorolde wīs.	Was wise in worldly matters,

^c MS. nær. This must have been an error of the scribe, as Boethius had the reputation of great liberality. See Gibbon's *Decline and Fall*, chap. 39.

peorð-mýnþa ȝeorn.	Desirous of glory,
beorn boca ȝleap.	A man skilled in books,
Boitius.	Boethius,
ȝe hæle hatte.	105 The man was called :
ȝe þone hliȝan ȝeþah. ^d	He the report heard.
Ȝæs him on ȝemýnde.	He kept in mind,
mæla ȝehplice.	Continually,
ýfel and eopit.	The evil and contumely,
þæt him elþeodȝe.	110 That to them,
kýningaȝ cyðdon.	Foreign kings had spoken.
ȝæs on Ġreacaȝ hold.	<i>He</i> was to the Greeks faithful,
ȝemunde þaȝa aȝa.	<i>He</i> remembered the honours,
and eald-rihta.	And ancient rights,
þe hiȝ elþan.	115 Which his ancestors
mið him ahton longe.	With them long possessed,
luȝan and liȝra.	<i>The</i> love and favour.
Angan þa liȝtum ýmbe.	<i>He</i> then began cautiously,
þencean þeaplice.	Carefully to meditate,
hu he þideȝ meahte.	120 How he then might
Ġreacaȝ onceȝpan.	Bring over the Greeks ;
þæt ȝe Ġaȝeȝe.	That the Cæsar,
eȝt anpałb oȝeȝ hi.	Again power over them
aȝan moȝte.	Might obtain.
ȝende æȝend-ȝeppit.	125 <i>He</i> sent letters

^d ȝeþah is not rendered according to the usual translation ; but the context required the sense here given : perhaps Alfred used the word figuratively.

eald-hlaforðum.		To <i>the</i> ancient lords,
degelice.		Secretly :
and hi for Drihtne bæd.		And them by the Lord prayed,
ealðum tpeopum.		By <i>their</i> former troth,
þæt hi æft to him.	130	That they again to him,
comen on þa ceastræ.		Would come into the city ;
lete Greca pītan.		<i>He</i> would let the Greek nobles
pædan Rompanum.		Decree to the Romans,
nihter pypðe.		According to law. [people.
lete þone leodscipe	135	<i>He</i> would give permission to the
Ða þa lape ongeat.		Then discovered the design
Deodric Amuling.		Theodoric the Amuling,
and þone þegn oferfeng.		And seized the thane ;
heht fæstlice.		<i>He</i> commanded his nobles,
polc-geþiþar.	140	Firmly to hold
healbon þone hepe-ninc.*		The consul.
pær him hneoh fepa.		His mind was troubled
ege ffrom þam eople.		With fear of the earl ;
he hine inne.		He commanded <i>them</i>
heht on carceþne.	145	To lock him
clurten belucan.		In a prison cell.
Ða pær mod-fepa.		Then was <i>his</i> mind
miclum gednefed.		Greatly troubled ;
Boetiur.		Boethius
bneac longe æp.	150	Long before enjoyed,
plencea under polcnum.		Splendour under <i>the</i> clouds,

* MS. hepepine.

he þȳ ȳȳȳ meahȳe.	He the worse could
þolian þa þȳage.	Endure the course of events,
þa hio ȳȳa þearl becom.	When it so heavy came.
ȳȳȳ þa oȳȳod eoȳl.	155 Then was <i>the</i> earl dejected,
aȳe ne penȳe.	<i>He</i> thought not of honour,
ne on þam ȳȳȳȳe.	Nor in that fastness,
ȳȳȳȳe ȳemunde.	Cared for consolation ;
ac he neoȳol aȳȳȳaȳȳ.	But he stretched <i>himself</i>
ȳȳȳ oȳ ðune.	160 Down prostrate below ;
ȳeol on þa ȳloȳe.	<i>He</i> fell on the floor,
ȳela ȳoȳða ȳȳȳȳ.	<i>And</i> uttered many words,
ȳoȳþoȳȳ þeȳȳle.	Greatly despairing :
ne penȳe þoȳan aȳȳȳe.	Nor thought from thence ever
cuman oȳ þam clammum.	165 To come from those fetters ;
cleoȳode to Dȳȳȳȳȳe.	<i>He</i> cried to <i>the</i> Lord,
ȳeoȳȳȳȳ ȳȳȳȳȳȳ.	With mournful voice,
ȳȳððode þȳȳ :	<i>And</i> thus sung.

METRE II.¹

ȳȳȳȳ ȳȳ hoða ȳȳȳ.	BEHOLD I many lays,
ȳȳȳȳȳ ȳeo.	With delight formerly,
ȳȳȳȳ on ȳȳȳȳȳ.	Sung in <i>my</i> prosperity ;

¹ Boet. Lib. i. Metrum i.Carmina qui quondam studio florente peregi, &c.
The metres of Boethius, strictly speaking, begin here.

nu ſceal ſioſigende.
 pope ƷepæƷed.
 pſeccea Ʒiomor.
 ſiſgan ſaſ-cſidaſ.
 Me þioſ ſiccetunƷ harað.
 aƷæled þeſ Ʒeocſa.
 þ̅ ic þa Ʒed ne mæƷ.
 Ʒeſegean ſpa ſæƷne.
 þeah ic ſela Ʒio þa.
 ſette ſoð-cſida.
 þonne ic on ſælum pæſ.
 Oſt ic nu miſcýrpe.
 cuðe ſpſæce.
 and þeah uncuðſe.
 ær hſilum ſonð.
 me þaſ poſulð ſælða.
 ſel hſær^ſ blindne.
 on þiſ ðimme hol.
 ðýſine ſoſlæddon.
 and me þa beſýpton.
 næðeſ and ſpſoſne.
 ſoſ heoſa untſeopum.
 þe ic him æſne beſſe.
 tſupian ſceolde.
 hi me topendon.
 heoſa bacu biſeſe.

Now ſhall I ſorrowing,
 5 Weighed down with weeping,
 A ſad wretch,
 Sing mournful ſongs !
 Me this ſighing has
 Hindered,—this ſobbing,
 10 That ſongs I cannot
 So fair compoſe ;
 Though I formerly many
 True maxims arranged,
 When I was in proſperity.
 15 Oft I now wander
 From well-known ſpeech,
 And yet more unknown
 Formerly found.
 This world's goods
 20 Me, well nigh blinded,
 Into this gloomy hole,
 Fooliſh conducted ;
 And me then deprived
 Of counſel and conſolation,
 25 Through their perfidy.
 When I would ever beſt
 Rely upon them,
 They on me turned
 Their bitter backs,

^ſ MS. hſæſ.

and heopa bliſſe ƿrom.	30 And their bliss from <i>me took</i> .
Fonhpam polde Ʒe.	Wherefore would ye,
ƿeopulð ƿrýnð mine.	My worldly friends,
ƿecƷan oððe ƿingan.	Declare or sing,
þæt ic ƷeƷællic mon.	That I a happy man
ƿæne on ƿeopulðe.	35 Was in <i>the</i> world?
ne ƿýnt þa ƿorð ƿoð.	These are not true words,
nu þa ƷeƷælþa ne maƷon.	Since prosperity may not
ƿimle ƷepuniƷan. ^a	always remain.

METRE III.¹

Æala on hu Ʒrimmum.	ALAS! in how grim,
and hu Ʒrundleaſum.	And how bottomless
ƿeaðe ƿinceð.	A gulf labours
þæt ƿƿeopcende mod.	The darkling mind,
þonne hit þa ƿƿrongan.	5 When it the strong
ƿƿopmar beatað.	Storms lash,
ƿeopulð-biſƷunga.	Of worldly cares:
þonne hit ƿinnende.	When it <i>thus</i> contending,
hiſ aƷen leoht.	Its proper light
an ƿoplæteð.	10 Once forsakes,

^a These sentiments are similar to those expressed by Solon in his discourse with Cræsus, as described by Herodotus.

¹ Boet. Lib. i. Metrum ii.

Heu, quam præcipiti mersa profundo, &c.

and mid uua forȝit.
 þone ecan ȝeƿean.
 þringð on þa þioſtƿo.
 þyſſe ƿoƿulde.
 ȝoſȝum ȝeſpenced.
 ȝƿa iſ þyſſum nu.
 mode ȝelumpen.
 nu hit maƿe ne ƿat.
 ƿoſ Ȣode ȝodeſ.
 buton ȝnoſnunge.
 ƿſemðſe ƿoƿulde.
 him iſ ƿroſſe þearſ.

And in woe forgets
 The everlasting joy,
 And rushes into the darkness
 Of this world,
 15 Afflicted with cares !
 Thus has it now befallen
 This *my* mind ;
 Now it no more knows
 Of good for God,
 20 But lamentations,
 For *the* external world :
 To it is need of comfort.

METRE IV.*

Æala þu ȝcippend.
 ȝcippa tunȝla.
 heȝoneſ and eoſþan.
 þu on heah-ȝetle.
 ecum ȝicȝaſt.
 and þu ealne hƿæðe.
 heȝon ȝmbhƿearƿeſt.
 and þuþ þine halȝe miht.
 tunȝlu ȝenedeſt.

O, thou Creator
 Of the bright stars,
 Of heaven and earth ;
 Thou on thy throne
 5 Eternal reignest :
 And thou swiftly all
The heaven turnest round ;
 And by thy holy power,
The stars compellest,

* Boet. Lib. i. Met. v. O stelliferi conditor orbis, &c.

þæt hi þe to hepað.	10 That they thee obey !
ƿýlce ƿeo ƿunne.	Thus the sun
ƿƿeaƿtƿa nihta.	Of <i>the</i> swart nights
þioƿtƿo aƿƿæƿceð,	<i>The</i> darkness dispels,
þuƿh þine meht.	Through thy power.
blacum leohƿe.	15 With pallid light
beoƿhte ƿteoƿƿan.	<i>The</i> bright stars
mona ƿemetƿað.	<i>The</i> moon tempers,
þuƿh þinƿa meahta ƿƿeð.	Through the effect of thy power :
hƿilum eac þa ƿunƿan.	Sometimes also the sun,
ƿineƿ beƿeaƿað.	20 Of her ¹ bright light
beoƿhtan leohƿeƿ.	Bereaves,
þonne hit ƿebýƿiƿan mæƿ.	When it may happen
þæt ƿƿa ƿeneahƿne.	That so near
neðe ƿeoƿþað.	<i>He</i> necessarily is.
ƿƿelce þone mæƿan.	25 Also the fair
monƿenƿteoƿƿan.	Morning star,
þe ƿe oðƿe naman.	That we by another name,
æƿenƿteoƿƿa.	Evening star
nemƿan hepað.	Hear called ;
þu ƿenedeƿt þone.	30 Thou compellest him,
þæt he þæƿe ƿunƿan.	That he the sun's
ƿið beƿiƿiƿe.	Path keeps,

¹ In many of the Asiatic, and in all the ancient northern languages of Europe, the gender of the sun is feminine, and that of the moon is masculine ; and this peculiarity is to be met with in Shakspeare. See First Part of Henry the Fourth, Act i. Scene 2. See also Diversions of Purley, Taylor's Edition, vol. i. p. 53.

geapa gehpelce.	Every year ;
he gongan ſceal.	He shall go,
beropan ſeþan.	35 Shall advance before.
Ðræt þu fæder þenceſt.	Behold, thou O Father, makeſt
ſumur-lange dagaſ.	Summer long days,
ſpīðe hate.	Very hot :
þæm winter-dagum.	To winter days
þundrum ſceopra.	40 Wondrously ſhort
tīda geſciophaft.	Times appointeſt !
Ðu þæm treopum ſeleſt.	Thou to the trees giveſt
ſuþan and þeſtan.	<i>The ſouth and weſt wind ;</i>
þa ær ſe ſpeapra ſcopum.	Which before the black ſtorms
noþþan and eaſtan.	45 North and eaſt
benumen hæfde.	Had deprived
leaſa gehpelceſ.	Of every leaf,
þurh þone laðþan winð.	Through the more hoſtile wind.
Eala hræt on eorþan.	Behold on earth,
ealla geſceapra.	50 All creatures
hyrað þine hære.	Obeſy thy command ;
doð on heoponum ſpa ſome.	<i>And do in heaven the ſame,</i>
mode and mægne.	With mind and might ;
butan men anum.	But man alone,
ſe wið þinum pillan.	55 Who againſt thy will
þyrceð oftort.	Ofteneſt worketh.
þella þu eca.	O thou eternal,
and þu almihta.	And thou almighty,
ealra geſceapra.	Of all created beings,
ſceppend and peccend.	60 Maker and ruler,
ara þinum eapmum.	Spare thy wretched,

eorþan tudre.	Earth-born progeny,
monna cýnne.	Mankind,
þurh þinna mehta rped.	Through the effect of thy power !
Ðri þu ece God.	65 Why, eternal God,
æfre wolde.	Ever wouldst thou,
þæt ri pyrð on gepill.	That fortune at pleasure,
pendan rceolde.	Should incline
ýrlum monnum.	To evil men,
ealles rpa rriðe.	70 Altogether so much ?
hio ful oft ðeneð.	She full oft injures
unrcýlðezum.	<i>The</i> guiltless.
ðittað ýfele men.	Wicked men sit
gionð eorð-ricu.	In earthly kingdoms,
on heah-rytlum.	75 On thrones ;
halige þriccað.	<i>The</i> saints <i>they</i> tread
under heora fotum.	Under their feet.
ricum uncuð.	To men <i>it is</i> unknown,
hri ri pyrð rpa po.	Why fortune so crookedly
pendan rceolde.	80 Should move.
Ðpa rint gehýðde.	Thus are concealed,
heþ on worulde.	Here in <i>the</i> world,
geond burga þela.	In many cities,
beorhte cræfta.	Bright virtues.
Unrihtwýre.	85 Unrighteous <i>men</i> ,
eallum tidum.	At all times,
habbað on worpe.	Hold in derision,
þa þe him rindon.	Those that to them are
rihter wýrran.	Superior in justice,
ricef pyrðþan.	90 More worthy of command.

Br̃ð ꝥ leaƿe lot.	The false craftiness is
lange hƿile.	Long while
beƿuƿen mið ƿƿencum.	Concealed by frauds.
Nu on ƿoƿulde heƿ.	Now here in the world,
monnum ne deƿiað.	95 On men inflict no injury,
mane aƿaƿ.	Wicked oaths.
Eriƿ þu nu ƿalðenð ne ƿilt.	If thou now, O Ruler, wilt not
ƿiƿde ƿteogan.	Fortune control,
ac on ſelf-ƿille.	But with self-will
riƿan læteƿt.	100 Permittest <i>her</i> to rush ;
þonne ic ƿat þæt te ƿile.	Then I know that worldly
ƿoƿulð-men tƿeogan.	Men will doubt,
geonð ƿolðan-ƿceat.	Through the earth,
buton ƿea ane.	Except a few alone.
Eala min Driȝhten.	105 O my Lord,
þu þe ealle oƿerſiȝht.	Thou that over-seest
ƿoƿulde geƿcearƿta.	All worldly creatures,
ƿlit nu on moncȳn.	Look now on mankind,
miłdum eazum.	With placid eyes ;
nu hi on moneȝum heƿ.	110 Now they here in many
ƿoƿulde ýþum.	Worldly waves,
ƿȳnnað and ƿƿincað.	Strive and labour,
earme eoƿð-ƿaƿan.	Miserable inhabitants of earth,
aƿa him nu þa.	Spare them now therefore !

METRE V.^a

Ðu meahc be þære sunnan.	THOU mayest by the sun,
ſpeotole geþencean.	Clearly perceive,
and be æghpelcum.	And by every
oðrum ſteorpan.	Other star,
þara þe æfter byrgum.	5 Of those which through cities
beorhtost ſcineð.	Brightest shine ;
Eg him pan for.	If before them a dark
polcen hangað.	Cloud hang,
ne mægen hi ſpa leohtne.	They cannot so light
leoman anſendan.	10 A ray send forth,
ær ge þicca myt.	Until the thick mist
þinna weorðe.	Becomes thinner.
Ðra oft ſmýlde gæ.	So oft the smooth sea
gurene winð.	Green, transparent as glass,
gæge glar-hluðre.	15 The southern wind
gnumme gedrepeð.	Fierce disturbs :
þonne he gemengað.	When they are mingled,
micla gæta.	Great storms
onhweað hron-mene. ^a	Stir up the sea ;
hroh bið þonne.	Then rough becomes

^a Boet. Lib. i. Met. vii. Nubibus atris, &c.^a Literally, whale pond.

reo þe ær gladu.

on-riene pær.

Ðra oft ærppinge.

utapealleð.

of clife hapum.

col and hlutor.

and gepeclice.

rihte flopeð.

irneð rið hir eanðer.

oð him on innan felð.

munter mægen-ŕtan.

and him on miððan ȝeliȝeð.

atrenblod of þæm toŕne.

he on tu riðþan.

toŕceaden pȕrð.

ŕcır bið ȝedneŕeð.

bupna ȝeblonden.

bŕoc bið onpendeð.

of hir riht riȕne.

riȕbum toŕfopen.

ŕpa nu þa þioŕŕno.

þinŕe heoŕtan pillað.

minŕe leohtan.

laŕe piðŕtonðan.

and þin mod-ȝeþonc.

miclum ȝedneŕan.

Ac ȝiŕ þu nu pilnaŕt.

þæt þu pel mæȝe.

þæt ŕoðe leoht.

That which before

Was pleasaut to the sight.

So often a fountain

Springs out

25 Of a hoar cliff,

Cool and clear,

And diffusedly

Flows straight along,

Runs to its own place ;

30 Until into it falls

A huge stone *from the* mountain,

And in *the* middle of it lies,

Rolled from the high rock.

It into two thence

35 Is divided,

The clear stream polluted,

Becomes troubled ;

The brook is turned aside,

From its right course,

40 Flowing in rills.

So now the darkness

Of thine heart wishes

My enlightened doctrine

To withstand :

45 And thy mind's thoughts

Greatly to trouble.

But if thou now desirest,

Which thou well mayest,

The true light,

ƿƿeotole oncnapan.	50 Clearly to understand,
leohte Ʒeleapan.	<i>The</i> pure faith ;
þu ƿoplætān ƿcealt.	Thou shalt renounce
idle ofep-ƿælþa.	Vain superfluities,
unnýtne Ʒeƿean.	Unprofitable glory ;
þu ƿcealt eac ýfelne eƷe.	55 Thou shalt also evil fear
an-ƿoplætān.	Dismiss,
ƿopulb-eapƿoþa.	Worldly troubles ;
ne moƿt þu ƿeƿan ƿop þām.	Nor must thou be through them
ealler to opmoð.	Altogether dejected.
ne þu þe æƿne ne læt.	60 Nor do thou ever let
plenca Ʒeƿæcan.	Prosperity excite thee,
þe læƿ þu ƿeopðe ƿop him.	Lest thou through it shouldst be
mið ofep-mettum.	With arrogance
eƿt Ʒeƿcendeð.	Again corrupted,
and to upahapen.	65 And too much lifted up
ƿop opƿopƷum.	With prosperous,
ƿopulb-Ʒeƿælþum.	Worldly goods.
Ne eƿt to ƿaclice.	Nor again too weakly
Ʒeopƿeoƿe.	Despair
ænigef Ʒoðeƿ.	70 Of any good :
þonne þe ƿop ƿopulðe.	When in <i>the</i> world
ƿiþeƿeapða mæƿt.*	Adverse things
þinga þneage.	Thee most afflict ;
and þu þe ƿelfum.	And thou thyself
ƿƿiþoƿt onƿitte.	75 Chiefly weighest down.
ƿopþām ƿimle bið.	For always is

re mod-gefa.	The mind
miclum gebunden mid.	Greatly bound with
gednefneffe.	Trouble :
gif hine dreccean mot.	80 If either of these evils
þiſſa yrla hræþer.	Can torment it,
innan ſpencan.	Or afflict within.
forþæm þa tpegen tpegan.	Because the two vexations
teoð to romne.	Draw together
wið þæt mod foran.	85 Before the mind
miſteſ dpoleman.	A chaos of darkness ;
þæt hit ſeo ece ne mot.	That on it the eternal sun cannot
hīnan geond ſcīnan. [miſtum	Hence shine
ſunne for þæm ſpeartum	For the swart mists,
ær þæm hi geſpiðnað peopþen.	Until they are subdued.

METRE VI.*

Ða ſe Wiſdom eft.	THEN Wisdom again
word-hord onleac.	His treasury of words unlocked,
ſang roð-cwiðar.	Sung <i>various</i> maxims,
and þuſ ſelſa cpað.	And thus expressed himself.
Ðonne ſio ſunne.	5 When the sun
ſpeotoloſt ſcīneð.	Clearer shines,
hadroſt of heſone.	Serenest in the heaven ;
hræðe bioð aſiſtrod.	Quickly are obscured

* Boet. Lib. ii. Met. iii. Cum polo Phœbus roseis quadrigis, &c.

ealle ofiſ eorþan.	Over the earth
oðre ſteorpan.	10 All other stars :
forþæm hioſa biſhtu ne bið.	Because their brightness is not
auht [biſhtneſſe.] ^a	[Brightness] at all,
to geſettane.	Compared with
rið þæne ſunnan leoht.	The sun's light.
Ðonne ſmolte blæpð.	15 When mild blows
ſuþan and weſtan winð.	<i>The</i> south and western wind,
under polcnum.	Under <i>the</i> clouds ;
þonne weaxeð hwaðe.	Then quickly grow
feldeſ bloſtman.	<i>The</i> flowers of <i>the</i> field,
ſægen þæt hi moton.	20 Joyful that they may.
Ac ſe ſtearca ſtorſm.	But the stark storm,
þonne he ſtrong cymð.	When it strong comes,
noſþan and eaſtan.	<i>From</i> north and east,
he genimeð hwaðe.	It quickly takes away
þæne noſan plite.	25 <i>The</i> beauty of the rose.
And eac þa ſuman ſæ.	And also <i>the</i> northern storm
noſþerne yſt.	Constrained by necessity,
nede gebæded.	That it is strongly agitated,
þæt hio ſtranze geond ſtýneð.	Lashes the spacious sea
on ſtaþu beateð.	30 Against <i>the</i> shore.
Eala ꝥ on eorþan.	Alas ! that on earth,
auht fæſtliceſ.	Aught of permanent
weorces on weorlde.	Work in <i>the</i> world,
ne punað æfre.	Does not ever remain !

^a Both the alliteration and sense shew that a word has been omitted in the MS. and I have supplied the deficiency by inserting *biſhtneſſe*.

METRE VII.¹

Ða ongon ƿe ƿiſdom.	THEN began Wisdom
hiſ ƿepunan ƿylgan.	His wont to follow ;
Ʒlio-ƿopðum Ʒol.	<i>He</i> sung in metre,
Ʒyð æt ² ƿelle.	A lay in <i>his</i> discourse ;
ƿong ƿoð-ƿiða.	5 <i>And</i> uttered certain
ƿumne þa Ʒeta.	Maxims again.
Ʒpæð he ne heƿðe.	<i>He</i> said he never heard,
þæt on heanne ³ munt.	That on a high mountain,
monna æniƷ.	Any one of men
meahƿe aƿettan.	10 Could place
healle hƿoſ-ƿæƿte.	A roof-fast hall.
Ne þearf eac hæleþa nan.	Nor need moreover any man,
ƿenan þæf ƿeoƿcef.	To think of this work,
þæt he ƿiſdom mæƷe.	That he may wisdom
ƿið oƿeƿmetta.	15 With sensuality
æfpe ƷemenƷan.	Ever mingle.
Heƿðeſ þu æfpe.	Heardest thou ever,
þæt te æniƷ mon.	That any man
on ƿonð beoƿƷaf.	On sand hills
ƿettan meahƿe.	20 Could set

¹ Boet. Lib. ii. Met. iv.

Quisquis volet perennem, &c.

² MS. æƿt.³ MS. heane.

færte healle.	A firm hall?
Ne mæg eac fīra nan.	Nor can moreover any man
ƿiſdom tīmbrian.	Establish wisdom,
þær þær ƿoſuld-gitrunġ.	Where worldly covetousness
beoſġ oƿerþrædeð.	25 Overspreads <i>the</i> hill.
baſu ſond ƿillað.	The bare sand desires
nen ƿoſſƿelġan.	To swallow up the rain.
ſƿa deð ſiġra nu.	So does now of the wealthy
ġrundleaſ gitrunġ.	The bottomless avarice
ġilpeſ and æhta.	30 Of glory and possessions,
ġeðſinceð to ðriġġum.	Drink to <i>the</i> dregs
ðneorendne pelan.	Perishable wealth:
and þeah þær þearfan ne bið.	And yet of this desire
þurft aceleð.	Is not <i>the</i> thirst allayed.
Ne mæg hæleþa ġehpæm.	35 Nor may to any man,
huſ on munte.	A house on a mountain
lange ġelæſtan.	Long remain;
ƿoſþæm him lungne on.	For on it quickly
ſƿiſt ƿind ſƿapeð.	<i>The</i> swift wind sweeps.
Ne bið ſond þon ma.	40 Nor is sand the better,
ƿið micelne nen.	Against much rain,
manna ængum.	To any one of men,
huſeſ hiſde.	Protector of <i>his</i> house;
ac hit hneoran ƿile.	But it will fall,
ſiġan ſond æfteſ nene.	45 The sand sink after rain.
ſƿa bioð anġa ġehpær.	So are the minds
monna mod-ſeſan.	Of every one of men,
miclum apeġede.	Greatly agitated,
oƿ hioġa ſteðe ſtipeðe.	From their place moved,

þonne he ƿƿrong ðneceð.	50 When them the strong wind
ƿiñð unðer ƿolcnum.	Of worldly troubles,
ƿoruld-eaƿfoða.	Under the clouds afflicts :
oððe hi ^u eft ƿe ƿeða.	Or them again the violent
nen onhƿeneð.	Rain excites
ƿumer ymbhogan.	55 Of some anxiety,
unġemet ġemen.	Immoderate care.
Ac ƿe þe þa ecan.	But he who will possess
aġan ƿille.	<i>The</i> eternal,
ġoþan ġeƿælþa.	True felicities,
he ƿceal ƿiððe ƿlion.	60 He must quickly fly
þiſſe ƿorulðe ƿlite.	This world's splendour ;
ƿýnce him ƿiðþan.	<i>And</i> then let him make
hiſ moder huſ.	His mind's house,
þær he mæġe ƿiñðan.	Where he may find
eaðmetta ƿtan.	65 <i>The</i> rock of humility,
unġemetƿæſtne. ^w	<i>The</i> immense
ġrundi-peal ġeapone.	Foundation prepared :
ƿe to-ġliðan ne þearf.	It need not slip,
þeah hiſ ƿecġe ƿiñð.	Though it the wind agitate,
ƿoruld-eaƿfoða.	70 Of worldly troubles,
oððe ymbhogena.	Or of anxieties,
oſmete nen.	<i>The</i> immoderate rain.
ƿorþæm on þære ðene.	For in the valley
Drihten ƿeſða.	Of humility,
þara eaðmetta.	75 <i>The</i> Lord himself

^u MS. hit.^w MS. unig metƿæſtne.

eapðfærc puniȝað.
 þær se ȝiȝdom á.
 punað on ġemýndum.
 forþon onforȝ lif.
 ealniz læðað.
 populð-men piȝe.
 buton penðinge.
 þonne he eall forȝiðð.
 eopðlicu ġood.
 and eac þara ȝpela.
 onforð punað.
 hopað to þam ecum.
 þe þær ærteȝ cumað.
 Ðine þonne æȝhponan.
 ælmihtiz ġood.
 riȝgallice.
 riȝle ġehealdeð.
 anpunizendne.
 hiȝ aȝenum.
 modeȝ ġeȝelþum.
 þuȝh metodeȝ ġiȝe.
 þeah hine se pind.
 populð-eapfoða.
 riȝðe riȝence.
 and hine riȝgale.
 ġemen ġæle.
 þonne him ġrimme on.
 populð-rælpða pind.

Permanently dwells.
 There Wisdom ever
 Remains in minds.
 Therefore a secure life
 80 Always lead
 Wise men in the world,
 Without change,
 When they despise
 All earthly goods ;
 85 And also of evils
 Remain careless ;
 They hope for the eternal *things*
 Which thereafter shall come.
 Him, then, everywhere,
 90 Almighty God
 Perpetually,
 Ever keeps,
 Dwelling alone,
 In *the* proper happiness
 95 Of his mind,
 By *the* Creator's gift :
 Though him the wind
 Of worldly troubles
 Greatly disturbs,
 100 And him perpetual
 Cares impede ;
 When on him fiercely,
 The dark wind blows

ƿƿaðe blaƿeð.

þeah þe hine ealneȝ.

ƿe ýmbhoȝa þýſſa.

ƿopulð-ſælþa.

ƿƿaðe ðƿecce.

Of worldly goods ;

¹⁰⁵ *And* though him always,

The anxious care

Of these worldly goods

Severely afflicts.

METRE V.*

ðona ƿƿa ƿe ƿýðom.

þaſ ƿopð hæſde.

ſƿetole aƿeahte.

he þa ƿiðþan onȝan.

ſingȝan ƿoð-cƿiðar.

and þuſ ſelſa cƿæð.

ðƿæt ſio ƿopme elð.

ƿolð-buendum.

ȝeond eopþan-ſceat.

æȝhpam ðohte.

þa þa anȝa ȝehƿæm.

on eopð-ƿæſtmum.

ȝenoh þuhte.

niſ hit nu þa ƿpelc.

næpon þa ȝeond ƿeopulðe. ¹⁵ Then through the world were not

As soon as Wisdom

These words had

Plainly uttered,

He then afterwards began

⁵ To sing maxims,

And thus expressed himself.

How was the first age

To the inhabitants

Throughout the earth,

¹⁰ To each one happy !

When to every one

In *the* earth's fruits

Abundance appeared :

It is not so now.

* Boet. Lib. ii. Met. v. Felix nimium prior ætas, &c.

pelige hamar.
 ne mīrlīce.
 mettar ne ðrīncar.
 ne hī þara hrægla.
 hupu ne gemdon.
 þe nu ðrīht-guman.
 dīorort lætað.
 forþæm hīora nænig.
 nær þa gīeta.
 ne hī ne gerapon.
 rund-buende.
 ne ymbutan hī.
 aperi ne herdon.
 hræt hī rīnenlurta.
 frecene pæron.
 buton fpa hī meah-ton.
 gemetlicort.
 þa gecynd began.
 þe him Crīst gerceop.
 and hī æne on dæge.
 æton fymle.
 on æfen-tīd.
 eorþan pærtmar.
 puder and pýpta.
 naller pīn ðruncon.
 fcrīp of fteape.
 nær þa fcealca nan.
 þe mete oððe ðrīnc.

Rich houses,
 Nor various
 Meats and drink.
 Nor did they at all care about
 20 The ornaments,
 Which now the chiefs
 Most dearly esteem;
 For of them none
 As yet existed.
 25 Nor did sailors
 Ever see them,
 Nor about them
 Anywhere hear.
 Moreover they of luxuries
 30 Were desirous,
 Only as they might
 Most moderately
 The nature obey,
 Which for them Christ created.
 35 And they once in *the* day
 Always ate,
 At even-tide,
 Earth's fruits,
 Of *the* tree and of herbs.
 40 No wine they drank
 Pure from *the* cup;
 There was no servant
 Who meats or drink

mængan cuðe.	Knew how to mingle,
pæter pīð hunige.	45 —Water with honey.
ne heora pæda þon ma.	Nor any more their garments
rioloe riopian.	To sew with silk :
ne hi riapo-cræftum.	Nor with skilful arts
godpeb ginedon.	Did they prepare <i>the</i> purple.
ne hi gimpeced. ⁷	50 Nor did they palaces
retton reapolice.	Artfully construct.
ac hi rimle him.	But they ever,
eallum tidum.	At all times,
ute rlepon.	Slept out,
under beam-ryceade.	55 Under the tree-shade.
ðruncon burnan pæter.	They drank water of the brook,
calde pellan.	Of the cold fountain.
nænig cepa ne reah.	No merchant saw
ofer ear-geblond.	Over the sea,
ellendne pearod.	60 A foreign shore ;
ne hupu ymbe rcip-hergar.	Nor about fleets at all
re-tilcar ne herdon.	Ploughing the seas heard <i>they</i> :
ne furþum rīra nan.	Nor moreover did any man
ymb zereohht rprecan.	About fights <i>hear</i> speak.
nær þeor eorðe bermiten	65 This earth was not polluted
aper þa zeta.	Anywhere yet
beorner blode.	With <i>the</i> blood of man.

⁷ Lye having translated *peced domus*, and *jund-peced marina domus*, sc. arca, I have rendered *gimpeced* palaces. The sense of the passage precludes the rendering of Lye, as a noun is evidently required.

þe hi ne* bill-ruðe.	Then they no bloody steel,
ne fupþum pundne þeþ.	Nor even a wounded man,
peopulð-buende.	70 (<i>The</i> inhabitants of earth)
geþapan under þunna.	Beheld under <i>the</i> sun.
nænig riðþan þeþ.	No one afterwards would have been
peorð on peopulðe.	Honoured in the world,
guf mon hir pillan ongeat.	If they had discovered
ypelne mid eldum.	75 His evil will of old : [all.
he þeþ æghpæm lað.	He would have been loathsome to
Eala þæt ^a hit þurðe.	O that it might be !
oððe polde Eod.	Or that God would,
þæt on eorþan nu.	That on earth now,
urra tida.	80 In our times,
geond þar widan peopulð.	Through the wide world,
þæpen æghpæp ^b ypelce.	<i>They</i> were everywhere such,
under þunna.	Under the sun !
Ac hit iþ æmpe nu.	But it is worse now,
þæt þeor giterunc harað.	85 That this covetousness has
gumena gehpelceþ.	Of every man,
mod amepneð.	<i>The</i> mind corrupted :
þæt he mapan ne pecð.	That he is reckless <i>of other things</i> :
ac hit on witte.	But it in his mind
peallende bypneð.	90 Raging burns,
eþne fio giterung.	Even the covetousness
þe nænne grund harað.	Which has no bottom ;

* MS. hine.

* MS. þæp.

* MS. æghpæp.

ƿƿearƿe ƿƿæƿeð.
 ƿumeƿ on lice.
 eƿne þam munte.
 þe nu monna beapn.
 Eƿne hatað.
 ƿe on iƿlonde,
 Sicilia.
 ƿƿeƿle bȳpneð.
 þæt mon helle ƿȳp.
 hateð ƿiðe
 ƿoþþam hit ƿimle bið. .
 ƿin-bȳpnenðe.
 and ȳmbutan hit.
 oðþa ƿtopa.
 blate ƿoþþæpneð.
 biƿeƿan leze.
 Eala hpæt ƿe ƿoþma.
 ƿeoh-ƿitƿeƿe.
 ƿæpe on ƿoþulde.
 ƿe þaƿ ƿonȝ-ƿteðap.
 ȝnoƿ æƿteƿ ȝolde.
 and æƿteƿ ȝim-cȳnnum.
 hpæt he ƿƿecnu ȝeƿtƿeon.
 ƿunde mænegum.
 beƿnȳzen on ƿeopulde.
 ƿæteƿe oððe eoþþan.

It black lies smouldering,
 Somewhat like
 95 Even to that mountain,
 Which now *the* children of men
 Call Etna;
 Which in *the* island
 Of Sicily
 100 With sulphur burns,
 That men hell fire
 Widely call,
 Because it ever is,
 Perpetually burning;
 105 And about it
 Other places
 Everywhere burns up,
 With a bitter flame.
 Alas! that the first
 110 Miser
 Should have been in the world,
 Who the fields
 Delved after gold,
 And after precious stones;
 115 He indeed dangerous wealth
 Found for many,
 Concealed in the world,
 In water or in earth!

METRE IX.^c

ƿæt pe ealle ƿiton.	We all indeed know
hƿelce ærleſte.	What iniquities,
ge neah ge feor.	Both near and far,
Neron ƿorhte.	Nero wrought,
Romana cýning.	5 —King of <i>the</i> Romans,
þa hſ ƿice ƿær.	When his kingdom was
hehſt under heofonum.	Highest under heaven,
to hrýpe monegum,	For ruin to many.
ƿælhreoper geƿeð.	The madness of the tyrant
ƿær ful ƿide cuð.	10 Was full widely known,—
unriht-hæmed.	Adultery,—
anlearta ſela.	Many impieties,—
man and morþor.	Wickedness and murder,—
mſðæda ƿorh.	A multitude of misdeeds,—
unrihtſeſe.	15 Of an iniquitous <i>man</i>
inrið-þoncaſ.	The machinations!
He het him to gamene.	He ordered for his sport,
geara forþærnan.	Formerly to burn,
Romana buriȝ.	<i>The</i> city of <i>the</i> Romans,
ſio hſ ƿiceſ ƿær.	20 Which was of his whole empire

^c Boet. Lib. ii. Met. vi. Novimus quantas dederit ruinas, &c.

ealler eþel-ſtol.
 De ƿor unſnyttum.
 polde ƿandian.
 gif þ ƿyr meahthe.
 lixaþ ƿpa leohte.
 and ƿpa longe eac.
 ƿeadpa ƿettan.
 ƿpæ he Romane.
 ƿecgan geheþde.
 þæt on ƿume tide.
 Tƿoia buƿg.
 oƿentogen hæþde.
 lega leohtort.
 lengeſt buƿne.
 hama under heƿonum.
 Næſ þæt heƿlic dæd.
 þæt hine ƿpelceſ gameneſ.
 gilpan lýrte.
 þa he ne eapnade.
 eller ƿuhte.
 buton þæt he polde.
 oƿer ƿer-þode.
 hiſ aneſ huƿu.
 anpaþ cýþan.
 Eac hiſ geſælde.
 æt ƿumum cieppre.
 þæt ƿe ilca het.
 ealle acpellan.
 þa ƿicoſtan.

The metropolis.
 He through foolishness,
 Would find out,
 Whether that fire might
 25 Shine as bright,
 And as long also,
And redder subside,
 Since he *the* Romans
 Heard say,
 30 That on a certain time,
The lightest flame,
The longest burning.
 Of dwellings under heaven,
 Had overwhelmed
 35 *The city of* Troy.
 That was not a glorious deed,
 That he of such like sport
 Should wish to boast,
 When he earned not
 40 Anything else;
 Except that he would
 Over mankind,
 His own power,
 Somewhat display.
 45 It also happened,
 At a certain time,
 That the same [Nero] ordered
 To slay all
 The richest senators

Romana pítan.
and þa æþeleſtan.
eoſl gebýrdum.
þe he on þæm folce.
geſpugen hæfde.

and on uppan.
agene broþor.
and hīſ modor mīð.
meca ecgum.

billum of-beatan.
Ðe hīſ brýðe ofſlog.

ſelf mīð ſpeorðe.

and he ſýmle pær.

micle þe bliðra.

on breoſt-coſan.

þonne he ſpýlceſ moſðneſ. ⁶⁵ When he of ſuch murder

mæſt geſnemede.

nalles ſorgode.

hpæþeſ ſiðþan á.

mīhtig Drihten.

ametan polde.

ſnece be geſpýhtum.

poh-ſnemmennum.

ac he on ſeſðe ſægn.

ſacneſ and ſearupa.

pælhſioſ punode.

þioð emne ſpa þeah.

ealles þiſſeſ mænan.

mīððan-geapdeſ.

⁵⁰ Of *the* Romans,

And the nobleſt

Earls by birth,

Whom he among that people

Had diſcovered :

⁵⁵ And upon

His own brother,

And his mother,

With *the* edges of ſwords,

With bills to ſtrike.

⁶⁰ He ſlew his bride

Himſelf with a ſword ;

And he was always

Much the blither

In his breaſt,

⁶⁵ When he of ſuch murder

Moſt perpetrated.

He nothing cared,

Whether afterwards, ever,

The mighty Lord

⁷⁰ Would mete out

Puniſhment by *their* deeds,

To the doers of wickedneſs.

But he in *his* mind rejoicing

In ſtratagems and frauds,

⁷⁵ A tyrant remained.

Yet he even ſo governed

All this extenſive

Middle earth,

ſƿa ſƿa lȳrt and lagu.
land ȳmbclȳppað.

gar-ſecg embe-gȳrt.
gumena riçe.

ſecge riçlu.

ſuð-eaſt and ƿeſt.

oð þa norðmeſtan.

næſſan on eorþan.

eall þæt Neſone.

neðe oððe luſtum.

heaþo-ſinca gehƿilc.

heſian ſceolde.

De hæfde him to gamene

þonne he on gȳlp aſtag.

hu he eorð-cȳningaſ.

ȳmde and cƿelnde.

Þenſt þu þ̅ ſe anpað.

eaðe ne meahte.

Goðeſ ælmihtigeſ.

þone gelp-ſcaþan.

riçe beſeðan.

and beſeaſian.

hiſ anpaðeſ.

þuþ þa ecan meaht.

oððe him hiſ ȳfeleſ.

eller geſtioran.

Eala giſ he ƿolde.

þæt he ƿel meahte.

þæt unriht him.

As far as air and water

80 The land encircle,

And ocean encompasses

The kingdoms of men—

The seats of warriors ;

South-east and west,

85 To the most northern

Promontory of *the* earth ;

All that to Nero,

By force or willingly,—

(Every one of the nobles,)

90 Was obedient.

He had for sport to him,

When he increased in arrogance,

How he *the* kings of *the* earth

Should oppress and slay.

95 Thinkest thou that the power

Of Almighty God

Could not easily

Blast that arrogance,

The empire deliver,

100 And bereave *him*

Of his power,

By the eternal might ;

Or else him of his evil

Correct ?

105 O, that he would,

As he well might,

That injustice to him,

eaðe forþiordan.	Easily forbid!
Ʒeapla þ̅ Ʒe hlaforð.	Alas! that this lord
heƷiƷ Ʒioc Ʒlepte.	110 A heavy yoke should cast,
ƷƷape on þa ƷƷýnan.	And burdensome on the necks
Ʒinra þeƷena.	Of his servants,
ealra þara hæleþa.	Of all the men,
þe on hiƷ tiðum.	Who in his times
Ʒeond þaƷ lænan Ʒorold.	115 Throughout this transitory world
liban Ʒceoldon.	Should live.
Ðe on unƷýlðƷum.	He with the guiltless
eopla blode.	Blood of nobles
hiƷ ƷƷeond Ʒelede.	His sword soiled
ƷƷiðe Ʒelome.	120 Very often.
Ðær ƷaƷ ƷƷiðe ƷƷeotol.	Then was very clear,
þæt Ʒe Ʒædon of̅t.	What we oft have said,
þæt Ʒe anƷalð ne ðeð.	That power does not
aƷiht ƷodeƷ.	Aught of good,
ƷiƷ Ʒe Ʒel nele.	125 If he does not will well
þe hiƷ ƷeƷealð haƷað.	Who has the exercise of it.

METRE X.⁴

ƷiƷ nu hæleþa hƷone.	If now any one of men
hliƷan lýƷte.	Lusts for fame;
unnýtne Ʒelp.	Unprofitable glory

⁴ Boet. Lib. ii. Met. vii. Quicumque solam mente præcipiti petit, &c.

aȝan pille.
 þonne ic hine polbe.
 poꝛdum biððan.
 þæt he hine æȝhponon.
 utan ýmbe þohte.
 ȝpeotole ýmb ȝape.
 ȝuð-eaꝛt and ȝeꝛt
 hu wiðȝil ȝint.
 polcnum ýmbutan.
 heoꝛoneȝ hpealȝe.
 hiȝe-ȝnotꝛum.
 mæȝ eaðe þincan.
 þæt þeoꝛ eoꝛðe ȝie.
 eall ȝoꝛ þæt oþeꝛ.
 unȝemet * lýtel.
 þeah hio unȝiꝛum.
 wiðȝel þince.
 on ȝtebe ȝtꝛonȝlic.
 ȝteopleaꝛum men.
 þeah mæȝ þone ȝiꝛan.
 on ȝeꝛit-locan.
 þæꝛe ȝitȝunȝe.
 ȝelpeȝ ȝcamian.
 þonne hine þæȝ hliȝan.
 heaꝛdoꝛt lýꝛteð.
 and he þeah ne mæȝ.
 þone toþneðan.

Will possess ;
 5 Then him I would
 With words beseech,
 That he everywhere
 Round about him would consider,
 Would openly look round,
 10 South-east and west,
 How wide are
 Above the clouds,
 The regions of heaven.
 To *the* wise mind
 15 It may easily appear
 That this earth is
 All in comparison with that other,
 Immeasurably little,
 Though it to *the* unwise
 20 Extensive seems,
 —In *its* place stable,
 To unlearned men.
 Yet may the wise
 In *his* mind,
 25 Be ashamed of
 The greediness of glory,
 When he this fame
 Strongest desires.
 And yet he may not
 30 Spread it,

* MS. unȝemet.

oſeþ þaſ neaþopan.
 næniȝe þinga.
 eoþan-ſceataſ.
 iſ þæt unnet ȝelp.
 Eala oſeþmodan.
 hþi eoþ alyſte.
 mið eoþnum ſþiþan.
 ſelſþa pillum.
 þæt ſþæpe ȝioc.
 ſþimle undeſlutan.
 Ðþy ȝe ymb þæt unnet.
 ealniȝ ſþincen.
 þæt ȝe þone hliþan.
 habban tiliað.
 oſeþ þioða ma.
 þonne eoþ þeaſſ ſie.
 þeah eoþ nu ȝeſæle.
 þæt eoþ ſuð oððe noſð.
 þa ytmertan.
 eoþð-buende.
 on moniȝ þioðſc.
 miclum heþien.
 Ðeah hþa æþele ſie.
 eoþl ȝebýrdum.
 þelum ȝeþeoþþað.
 and on plencum þio.
 duȝuþum ðiope.
 deað þaſ ne ſcþiſeð.
 þonne him num ſoþlæt.

In any wise,
 Over these narrow
 Regions of *the* earth.
 Vain is that glory!
 35 O, ye proud,
 Why do ye desire,
 With your necks,
 That heavy yoke
 Of your own wills,
 40 Ever to support?
 Why do ye always labour
 About that useless *thing*,
 That ye fame
 Strive to have,
 45 Over more nations
 Than is needful for you?
 Though to you it now happen,
 That you *from* south to north,
 The furthest
 50 Inhabitants
 In many nations
 Greatly obey.
 Though any should be noble,
 An earl by birth,
 55 Should abound in wealth,
 And in splendour flourish,
 Dear to *the* great;
 Death cares not for him,
 When him *the* august Ruler

ƿoðoƿa ƿalbenð.

ac he þone ƿeleƿan.

ƿæðlum ƿelice.

eƿn mæƿne ƿeðeð.

ælceƿ þingeƿ.

Ðƿæƿ ƿint nu þæƿ ƿiƿan. 60 Of *the* skies gives leave.

ƿelandeƿ ban.

þæƿ ƿold-ƿmiðeƿ.

þe ƿæƿ ƿeo mæƿoƿt

ƿoþþý ic cƿæð þæƿ ƿiƿan. 65 Where are now the bones

ƿelandeƿ ban.

ƿoþþý ængum ne mæƿ.

eoƿð-buendƿa.

ƿe cƿæƿt loƿian.

þe him Cƿiƿt onlænð.

Ne mæƿ mon æƿne þý eð. 70 *The* bones of the wise Weland :

æne ƿræccan.

hiƿ cƿæƿteƿ beniman,

þe mon onceƿƿan mæƿ.

ƿunnan onƿƿiƿan.

and þiƿne ƿƿiƿtan ƿoðoƿ. 75 Nor may any ever the sooner

of hiƿ ƿiht-ƿýne.

ƿinca æniƿ.

Ðƿa ƿat nu þæƿ ƿiƿan.

ƿelandeƿ ban.

on hƿelcum in hlæƿa.

hƿuƿan þeccen.

Ðƿæƿ iƿ nu ƿe ƿica.

Romana ƿita.

60 Of *the* skies gives leave.

But he the rich

Like unto the poor,

Makes equally great

In every thing.

65 Where are now the bones

Of the wise Weland,

The goldsmith,

Who was formerly most famous ?

On this account I said,

70 *The* bones of the wise Weland :

Because to any one

Of earth's inhabitants may not

The skill perish,

Which to him Christ lends.

75 Nor may any ever the sooner

Any wretch,

Of his skill deprive,

Than any one can turn

The sun backwards,

80 And this swift sky,

From its right course,

—Any one of men !

Who knows now *the* bones

Of the wise Weland ;

85 Under what heap of earth

They are concealed ?

Where is now the powerful

Senator of the Romans,

and je apoda.
 þe pe ýmb řpnecað.
 hiona hepetoga.
 je gehaten pær.
 mid þæm buhpapum.
 Brutur nemned.
 Ðpær iř eac je pıřa.
 and je peořð-geopna.
 and je fært-pæda.
 folceř hýrde.
 je pær uðpıta.
 ælceř þıngeř.
 cene and cnaftıř.
 þæm pær Laton nama.
 Ðı pæron geřýrn.
 forð-gepıtene.
 nat nænıř mon.
 hpær hi nu řındon.
 Ðpæt iř hiona hepe.
 buton je hlıřa an.
 je iř eac to lýtel.
 řpelcra larıopa.
 forþæm þa mago-řıncar.
 marıan pýrðe pæron.
 on porulde.
 Ac hit iř pýrre nu.
 þæt geond þar eořþan.
 æghpær řındon.
 hiona gelıcan.

And the asserter of liberty
 90 That we tell of;
 Their consul
 He was called,
 By the citizens,
 Named Brutus?
 95 Where is also the wise,
 And the studious of glory,
 And the inflexible
 Guardian of *the* people:
 Who was a philosopher
 100 In every respect,
 Brave and virtuous,
 To whom Cato was *the* name?
 They have long ago
 Departed.
 105 No man knows
 Where they now are.
 What is their fame,
 But the report alone
 Of such like teachers;
 110 Which is also too little,
 Because the men
 Of more were worthy.
 In the world?
 But it is worse now,
 115 That through this earth,
 Everywhere are
The like to them;

hpon ymb rpnæce.	Very little mention of <i>them</i> :
rume openlice.	Some clearly
ealle forȝitene.	120 <i>Are</i> all forgotten.
þæt hi re hlyra.	So that them
hwp-cuðe ne mæg.	Familiar fame cannot
forpe-mæne perar.	(Illustrious men)
forð gebrengan.	Bring to light.
Deah ge nu penen.	125 Though ye now expect,
and pilnigen.	And desire,
þæt ge lange tid.	That ye a long time
libban moten.	May live :
hpæt iop æfre þy bet.	What to you ever the better
bio oððe þince. ^f	130 <i>Is</i> it or appears ;
forþæm þe nane forlet.	Since after a number of days
þeah hit lang þince.	Death lets none escape,
deað æfter þogor-nime.	Though it seem long,
þonne he hæfð Drihtnes leafe.	When he has the Lord's leave ?
hpæt þonne hæbbe.	135 What then can have
hæleþa ænig.	Any one of men
guma æt þæm gylpe.	From that glory,
gif hine gegrypan mot.	If him may seize
re eca deað.	Eternal death,
æfter þyrrum populde.	140 After this life ?

^f þince in this, as in many other places, is used impersonally.

METRE XI.^s

An ꝛceppend 1ꝛ.
 butan ælcum tꝛeon.
 ꝛe 1ꝛ eac pealbend.
 populd-geꝛceapta.
 heoꝛoneꝛ and eoꝛþan.
 and heah ꝛæ.
 and ealꝛa þaꝛa.
 þe þæꝛ in puniað.
 ungeꝛepenlicpa.
 and eac ꝛpa ꝛame.
 þaꝛa þe pe eaꝅum.
 on lociað.
 ealꝛa geꝛceapta.
 ꝛe 1ꝛ ælmihtig.
 þæm oleccað.
 ealle geꝛceapte.
 þe þæꝛ ambehteꝛ.
 apuht cunnon.
 ge eac ꝛpa ꝛame.
 þa þæꝛ auht nýton.

There is one Creator,
 Without any doubt,
 Who is also *the* ruler
 Of worldly creatures,
 5 Of heaven and earth,
 And *the* high sea :
 And of all those *creatures*
 Which therein dwell
 Invisible ;
 10 And also the same,
 Of those that with our eyes
 We behold ;
 —*Even* all creatures.
 He is almighty ;
 13 Him obey
 All creatures,
 That of this service
 Aught know.
 And in like manner *those*
 20 Which thereof nothing know,

þæt hi þær þeodnes.

þeopar rindon.

re uf gerette.

riðo and þeopar.

eallum gerceaftum.

unapendendne.

ringallice.

riðbe gecynde.

þa þa he wolde.

þæt þ he wolde.

ƿpa lange ƿpa he wolde.

þæt hit ƿeƿan ƿceolde.

ƿpa hit eac to ƿopulde ƿceal. As it also for ever shall

ƿunian¹ ƿopð.

ƿopþæm æƿne ne maƿon. 35 For never may

þa unƿtillan.

ƿopulð-gerceafta.

ƿeopþan geƿtilde.

of þæm ƿýne onƿend

þe him ƿodeþa ƿearð.

endeþýnðeƿ.

eallum gerette.

hæƿð ƿe alƿealða.

ealle gerceafta.

geþæt mið hiƿ bƿiðle.

hæƿð butu gedon.

ealle gemanode.

That they of this Lord

Are servants.

He to us has set

Duties and customs,

25 To all creatures

Unchangeable,

For ever ;

—A natural relationship ;

When he would,

30 That which he would,

As long as he would,

That it should be,

As it also for ever shall

Henceforth remain.

35 For never may

The restless

Worldly creatures,

Become still ;

Or from that course turn,

40 Which to them the Guardian of the

Orderly,

[skies

To all has appointed.

The Omnipotent has

All creatures

45 Restrained with his bridle :

He has done both ;

All admonished,

¹ MS. ƿuniað. Lye corrected the reading, and has ƿunian.

and eac getogen.	And moreover restrained ;
þæt hi ne moten.	That they may not
oƿer metoder eƿt.	50 Beyond their Maker's pleasure
æfne Ʒertillan.	Ever be still :
ne eƿt eallunga.	Nor again altogether
Ʒriþor ƷtƷian.	Move more,
þonne hi ƷƷona-Ʒearð.	Than the triumphant Guardian
hiƷ ƷeƷeald-leþer.	55 The reins of his power
pille onlæten.	Will relax.
he haƷað þam ¹ bƷiðle.	He has with the bridle
butu beƷangen.	Encompassed both
heofon and eoþan.	Heaven and earth,
and eall holma-beƷong. ^k	60 And all <i>the</i> seas.
ÐƷa hæƷð ƷeheaþæƷoð.	So <i>the</i> Guardian of heaven,
heƷon-ƷiceƷ Ʒearð.	Has restrained
mið hiƷ anƷealde.	By his power,
ealle ƷeƷceafƷa.	All creatures ;
þæt hioƷa æƷhƷilc.	65 That each one of them
Ʒið oþer Ʒiðð.	With other strives ;
and þeah Ʒinnende.	And though striving,
ƷƷeþiað ƷæƷte.	Each the other
æƷhƷilc oþer.	Firmly supports,
utan Ʒymbclýppeð.	70 <i>And</i> outwardly embraces,
þý læƷ hi toƷƷifen.	Lest they should err.

¹ MS. þe.

^k I have never before met with this expression, and Lye does not notice it : but as holm is rendered by Lye aqua, mare, &c. and Ʒong iter, semita, &c. it may with propriety be rendered as here translated.

forþæm hi rymle fculon.	For they always shall
þone ilcan rýne.	The same course
eft gecýrnan.	Again pursue,
þe æt frýmðe.	75 Which at <i>the</i> beginning,
fæder zetioðe.	<i>The</i> father ordained,
and fpa ednipe.	And so renewed,
eft gefiorþan.	Again to be;
fpa hit nu fagað.	So it now varies,—
fpean ealð gefeopc.	80 The old work of the Lord;
þæt te pinnenðe.	That striving,
piþenpeapð gefceapf.	Contrary creatures,
færfe fribbe.	Firm agreement
fopð anhealðað.	Should ever keep.
fpa nu fyr and pæten.	85 As now fire and water,
folde and lagu-fpeam.	Earth and seas,
manigu oþru gefceapf.	<i>And</i> many other creatures
eƿn fpiðe him.	Equally great with them,
gionð þar pidan ¹ populðe.	Through this wide world,
pinnað betpeox him.	90 Strive between themselves,
and fpa þeah mazon.	And yet thus may
hioƿa þegnunza.	Their service,
and gefefpƿipe.	And fellowship,
færfe gehealdan.	Firmly keep.
Nif hit no þ an.	95 It is not this alone,
þæt fpa eaðe mæg.	That so easily may
piþenpeapð gefceapf.	Contrary creatures
peƿan ætgæðeƿe.	Be together,

¹ MS. pidaƿ.

rýmbel ȝeȝepan.	Always companions :
ac hit iſ ȝellicne.	100 But it is more wonderful,
þæt hioſa æniȝ ne mæg.	That of them none may
butan oþrum bion.	Without <i>the</i> others exist ;
ac ȝceal puhta ȝehwīlc.	But each thing shall
piþerpearder hwæt-hwugu.	Of its contrary somewhat
habban under heofonum.	105 Have under the heavens,
þæt hiſ hiȝe.	Which its energy
duſne ȝemetȝian.	Dares to moderate,
ær hit to micel weorðe.	Before it comes to much.
hwæt ȝe ælmihtiga.	The Almighty has
eallum ȝeȝceapum.	110 To all creatures
þæt ȝeppixle ȝeȝet.	That interchange appointed,
þe nu weuman ȝceal.	Which shall now remain ;
pypta ȝropan.	Plants to grow,
leaf ȝneuman.	<i>The</i> leaf to become green,
þæt on hwæfſe eft.	115 That again in harvest
hwæf ^m and wealupað.	Falls and withers.
winter bringeð.	Winter brings
weoðer unȝemet cald.	Weather immoderately cold,
ſwiſte winðas.	<i>And</i> swift winds.
ſumor æfter cýmeð.	120 Summer afterwards comes,
wearm ȝeƿeðe.	<i>And</i> warm weather.
hwæt þa weonnan niht.	Lo ! the dark night
mona onlihteð.	<i>The</i> moon enlightens,
oðþæt monnum dæg.	Until day to men
ſunne bringeð.	125 <i>The</i> sun brings,

^m Literally, ceases, sc. to grow.

- geond þar ſiðan geſceapt. Over this wide creation.
 Ðæfð ƿe ilca God. The same God has
 eorþan and ƿætere. To earth and water
 mearce geſette. Bounds appointed.
 mepe-ſtream ne deap. 130 *The* sea stream dares not
 oƿer eorþan ſceat. Over *the* region of *the* earth,
 eapð gebƿæðan. Extend *their* province
 ƿiſca cýnne. To *the* tribes of fish,
 butan ƿrean leape. Without its Lord's leave:
 ne hio æfre ne mot. 135 Nor may it ever
 eorþan þýrſc-pold. *The* earth's threshold
 up oƿer ſteppan. Over-step;
 ne þa ebban þon ma. Neither beyond the ebb
 ƿoldeſ mearce oƿer. May *the* boundaries of *the* land
 ƿapan moton. 140 Ever advance.
 þa geſetneſſa. These *things* so ordered
 ƿigora pealbend. *The* Lord of victories,
 liſeſ leoht ƿruma. *The* origin of life's light,
 læt þenden he ƿile. Permits while he will,
 geond þar mæpan geſceapt. 145 Over this great creation
 mearce healden. *Their* limits to keep.
 Ac þonne ƿe eca. But when the Eternal,
 and ƿe ælmihtiga. And the Almighty,
 þa gepealb-leþeru. The reins
 ƿile onlætan. 150 Will let go,
 efne þara bƿiðla. Even of the bridles,
 þe he gebætte. With which he curbed
 mid hiſ aȝen ƿeoƿc. His own work,
 eall æt ƿrýmðe. All at *the* beginning;

- þæt iſ piþerpearðner. 155 That is, *the* contrariety
 puhte gehpelcne. Of each thing,
 þe we mid þam bſidle. Which we by that bridle
 becnan tiliað. Endeavour to denote;
 gif we þioðen læt. If the Ruler permit
 þa toſlupan. 160 Them to be relaxed,
 ſona hi foſlætað. Soon would they forſake
 luſan and ſibbe. Love and peace,
 þæſ geſeſſcipeſ. *The* frienſhip
 ſneond-ſæðenne. Of this union:
 tiliað anpa gehwlc. 165 And every one would ſtrive
 agneſ willan. *After* its own will.
 poſulð-geſceafra. Worldly creatures
 ſinnað betweox him. Would contend with each other,
 oðþæt þioſ eoſðe. Until this earth
 eall foſſeoſþeð. 170 All periſhed:
 and eac ſpa ſame. And in like manner,
 oðra geſceafra. Other creatures
 ſeoſþað him ſelſe. Would bring themſelves
 ſiðþan to nauhte. Afterwards to naught.
 Ac we ilca God. 175 But the ſame God
 we þ eall metgað. Who all that guides,
 we geſeðð ſela. He joins many
 ſolca to ſomne. People together,
 and mid ſneondſcipe. And with frienſhip
 ſæſte gezaðnað. 180 Faſt unites *them*.
 geſamnað ſiſſcipe. He cements marriages,
 ſibbe gemenget. *And* forms relationship

clænlice lufe.	By virtuous love.
ƿpa ƿe cƿæƿtga eac.	So the Artificer also,
geƿeƿcƿaƿ.	185 Societies
ƿæƿte geƿamnað.	Firmly unites,
þæt hi hƿona ƿneondƿcƿe.	That they their friendship,
ƿonð on ƿymbel.	Thenceforth always,
untƿeoƿealbe.	Undivided,
ƿneopa gehealðað.	190 True should keep,
ƿbbe ƿamƿaðe.	Unanimously in peace.
ƿala ƿƿgona Gode.	O God of victories !
ƿæƿ þiƿ moncƿn.	This mankind would be
mielum geƿælið.	Very happy,
giƿ hƿona mod-ƿeƿa.	195 If their minds
meahte ƿeoƿþan.	Might be
ƿtaþolƿæƿt geƿeaht.	Rendered stable,
þuþ þa ƿƿonzan meaht.	Through thy strong power,
and ge endebyrð.	And well ordered,
ƿpa ƿpa oðra ƿint.	200 Like as other
ƿoƿulð geƿceafra.	Worldly creatures are.
ƿæƿe hit la þonne.	O then it would be
muƿge mið monnum.	Merry with men,
giƿ hit meahte ƿpa.	If it might be so !

METRE XII.*

Se þe wille þýpcan.
 þærctmbærne lond.
 atio of þæm æcepe.
 ærert rona.

feapn and þornar.
 and fýrjar rpa rame piod.
 þa þe pillað.
 pel hpær ðerian.
 clænum hpæte.

þý lær he cipa-lear.
 licge on þæm lande.
 Iŕ leoda gehpæm.
 þioŕ oðru býren.
 eŕn behefu.

þæt iŕ þæt te þýnceð.
 þegna gehpelcum.
 huniger bi-bneað.
 healfe þý rpetne.
 gýŕ he hpene ær.
 huniger teape.

He that will cultivate

Fertile land,

Let him from the field,

First pluck up

5 Fern and thorns,

And furze, and also weeds;

Which are disposed

Every where to hurt

The clean wheat :

10 Lest without germinating

It lie in the land.

To every people

This other similitude

Is equally necessary,

15 Which is, that to every man

Honey-comb

Appears

The sweeter by half,

If he a little before

20 The drop of honey,

* Boet. Lib. iii. Met. i. Qui serere ingenuum uolet agrum, &c.

bitreſ onbyrgeð.
 Bið eac ſpa ſame.
 monna æghwīc.
 mīcle þy ſægenpa.
 liþeſ peðreſ.
 gīf hine lītle ær.
 ſtorſmaſ geſtonðað.
 and ſe ſtearſa wīnð.
 norþan and eaſtan.
 Næneſum þuhte.
 ðæg on þonce.
 gīf ſio ðimme niht.
 ær oſeſ eldum.
 egeſan ne þrohte.
 ſpa þīncð anpa gehwæm.
 eorð-buendpa.
 ſio ſoðe geſælð.
 ſwītle þe betere.
 and þy þwīnſumpe.
 þe he wīta ma.
 heaðpa henþa.
 heſ adweoðeð.
 Ðu meaht eac mīcle þy eð.
 on mod-ſeſan.
 ſoþa geſælþa.
 ſweotolon geſnapan.
 and to heopa cýððe.
 becuman ſiðþan.
 gīf þu up atýhrð.

Tastes *anything* bitter.
 So in like manner is
 Every man,
 Much the happier
 25 With fine weather,
 If him a little before
 Storms should oppress,
 And the stark wind
 From north and east.
 30 To none would seem
The day delightful,
 If the dim night,
 Before all men,
 Terror did not bring.
 35 So to every one appears,
 Of *the* inhabitants of *the* earth,
 The true felicity,
 Always the better,
 And the more delightful,
 40 As he more evils,
 And severer troubles,
 Here suffers.
 Thou mayest also much the easier
 In *thy* mind,
 45 True felicities
 More clearly know,
 And to their country
 Afterwards come,
 If thou pluckest up,

ænert ſona.
 and þu apýntpalart.
 of gepit-locan.
 leara geræþa.
 ſpa ſpa londeſ-ceopl.
 of hiſ æcepe lýcð.
 ýfel peoð monig.
 Siðþan ic þe recge.
 þæt þu ſpeotole meaht.
 roþa geræþa.
 ſona oncnapan.
 and þu ærne ne necrt.
 æniger þingef.
 ofeþ þa ane.
 gif þu hi ealler ongiſrt.

50 First of all,
 And thou rootest
 Out of *thy* mind,
 False felicities;
 As a husbandman
 55 From his field pulls up
 Many an evil weed.
 Afterwards I tell thee,
 That thou clearly mayest,
 True felicities
 60 Soon know:
 And thou never wilt
 Care for any thing,
 Above them alone,
 If thou fully discoverest them.

METRE XIII.*

Ic pille mid giddum.
 get gecýþan.
 hu je ælmihtiga.
 ealna geſceapta.
 bſýnð mid hiſ bſiðlum.
 beꝝð þiðeþ he pille.
 mid hiſ anpealde.

I WILL with songs
 Still declare,
 How the Almighty
 All creatures
 5 Governs with his bridle,—
 Bends where he will,—
 With his well ordered

* Boet. Lib. iii. Met. ii. *Quantas rerum flectat habenas, &c.*

ge endebýrnð.	Power,
pundorlice.	Wonderfully
pel gemetgað.	10 Well moderates.
harað fpa geheaþorað.	<i>The</i> Ruler of <i>the</i> heavens
heorona pealðenð.	Has so controlled,
utan beþanzen.	<i>And</i> encompassed
ealla gerceapta.	All creatures,
geræped mid hýf pacentan.	15 <i>And</i> bound them with his chains,
þæt hý aþedian ne maþon.	That they cannot find out
þæt hý hý æfpe him.	That they ever from them
of arlepen.	May slip :
and þeah puhta gehpýlc.	And yet every thing,
ppýgað to-healð. ^p	20 Of various creatures,
fýðna gerceapta.	Tends with proneness,
fýðe onhelðeð.	Strongly inclined
þýð þæf gecýnðeþ.	To that nature,
þe hý cýning engla.	Which <i>the</i> King of angels,
fæðeþ æt fþýmðe.	25 <i>The</i> Father at <i>the</i> beginning,
fæfte getiode.	Firmly appointed them.
fpa nu þýnga gehpýlc.	Thus every one of things,
þýðeþ-pearð funðað.	Of various creatures,
fýðna gerceapta.	Thitherward aspires,
buzon fumum englum.	30 Except some angels,
and moncýnne.	And mankind ;
þana mýcleþ to feola.	Of whom much too many,
popoð-punienðna.	Dwellers in the world,
þýð þýð gecýnðe.	Strive against <i>their</i> nature.

^p Lye renders this line, tendit proclivis.

Ðeah nu on londe.

leon gemete.

pȳnsume piht.

pel atemeðe.

hīe maȳster.

miclum lufige.

and eac onðræde.

doȳora gehpelce.

ȳf hit æfre ȳerælð.

þæt hīo æniger.

blodeȳ onbȳrgeð.

ne þearf beorþna nan.

penan þære pȳrde.

þæt hīo pel ȳðþan.

hīe taman⁹ healde

ac ic tīohhie.

þæt hīo þær nīpan taman.

nauht ne gehicȳge.

ac þone pilðan ȳepunan.

pille ȳeþencan.

hīe elðrena.

onȳnð eopnerȳe.

nacentan ȳlitan.

pȳn ȳrȳmetȳgan.

and æperȳ abit.

hīe aȳener.

35 Though now on land,

A docile lion,

A pleasing creature,

Well tamed,

Her master

40 Much love,

And also fear,

Every day ;

If it ever happen,

That she any

45 Blood should taste,

No man need

Expect the chance,

That she well afterwards,

Her tameness will keep :

50 But I think

That she this new tameness,

Will naught regard ;

But will remember

The wild habits

55 Of her parents.

She will begin in earnest

Her chains to sever,

To roar,

And first will bite

60 Her own

⁹ Lye render s tama, domitor, a tamer ; he has, however, no authority besides this passage ; and as the context both in this and in the fifty-first line denotes a condition, I have ventured to translate it tameness.

hureſ hƿnde.
 and hƿaðe ƿiðþan.
 hæleþa gehƿilcne.
 þe hio gehentan mæg.
 nele hio ƿoplætæn.
 libbendeſ puht.
 neata ne monna.
 nimð eall þ hio ƿint.
 Ðpa doð ƿudu-ƿuglar.
 þeah hi pel ƿien.
 tela atemeðe.
 gƿ hi on tƿeopum ƿeopþað.
 holte to middeſ.
 hƿæðe bioð ƿopƿeþene.
 heopa lapeopar.
 þe hi lange ær.
 tƿdon ƿ temeðon.
 hi on tƿeopum ƿilðe.
 ealð-gecƿnde.
 á ƿopð ƿiðþan.
 ƿillum ƿumiað.
 þeah him ƿolðe hƿilc.
 heopa lapeopa.
 liſtum beoðan.
 þone ilcan mete.
 þe he hi æƿop ƿið.
 tame geþeðe.
 him þa tƿiƿu þincað.
 emne ƿpa meſge.

Master ;
 And quickly afterwards,
 Every man,
 Whom she can seize.
 65 She will not let go
 Any living thing,
 Of cattle or men :
She will seize all she finds.
 So do the wood birds,
 70 Though they are
 Well tamed :
 If they are among trees
 In *the* midst of *the* wood,
 Immediately their teachers
 75 Are despised,
 Though they long before,
 Taught and tamed *them*.
 They wild in *the* trees,
 In *their* old nature,
 80 Ever afterwards,
 Willingly remain ;
 Though to them would,
 Each of their teachers,
 Skilfully offer,
 85 The same meat,
 That he before
 Tamed them with ;
 The branches seem to them
 Even so merry,

þæt hi þær meter ne necð.	90 That they for meat care not :
þincð him to þon pýnrum.	It seems to them so pleasant,
þæt him je pealb oncpýð.	That to them the forest echoes ;
þonne hi geherað.	When they hear
hleofrum brægdan.	Other birds
oðne fugelar.	95 Spread <i>their</i> sound,
hi heopa aagne.	They their own
ŕterne ŕcýnað.	Voice raise.
ŕtunað eal geador.	<i>They</i> stun the ears altogether
pel-pínrum ŕanc.	With <i>their</i> joyful song,
puðu eallum oncpýð.	100 <i>The</i> wood all resounds.
ŕpa bið eallum treopum.	So is it with all trees,
þe him on æþele bið.	Which are in their own soil,
þæt hit on holte.	That each in <i>the</i> wood
hýhŕt gepeaxe.	Highest shall grow.
þeah þu hþilcne boh.	105 Though thou any bough
býge pið eorþan.	Bendest towards <i>the</i> earth,
he bið uppearðer.	It is upwards,
ŕpa þu an ŕoplæter.	As soon as thou lettest <i>it</i> go :
piðu on pillan.	Wide at will,
pent on gecýnde.	110 <i>It</i> turns to <i>its</i> nature.
ŕpa deð eac ŕio ŕunne.	So does also the sun,
þonne hio on ŕize peorþeð.	When she is declining,
ofer midne bæg.	After mid-day,—
mepe condel.	The great candle,
ŕcýrt on ofbæle.	115 Verges to her setting.

^r Lye, in his Supplement, considers brægdan to be the participle of brægan, and renders the line strepitu dilatato. I have, however, taken the liberty of rendering it as an infinitive.

uncuðne peg.		<i>The unknown way</i>
nihter zeneþeð.		<i>Of night subdues :</i>
norþ eft 7 eart.		<i>Again north and east</i>
elðum otepeð.		<i>Appears to men,</i>
bþencð eorð-parum.	120	<i>Brings to earth's inhabitants</i>
morzen mepe tophrne.		<i>Morning greatly splendid.</i>
hio oþer moncýn 7tíhð.		<i>She over mankind goes</i>
á uppeander.		<i>Continually upwards,</i>
oð hio eft cýmeð.		<i>Until she again comes,</i>
þær hipe ýfemeþt bñð.	125	<i>Where her highest</i>
earð-gecýnde.		<i>Natural station is.</i>
þpa 7pa ælc 7erþeart.		<i>So every creature,</i>
ealle mægene.		<i>With all its might,</i>
geond þar wíðan worulð.		<i>Throughout this wide world,</i>
prígað 7 hígað.	130	<i>Strives and hastens,</i>
ealle mægene.		<i>With all its might,</i>
eft 7ýmle on lýt.		<i>Again ever inclines</i>
prð hý gecýnder.		<i>Towards its nature,</i>
cýmð to þonne hit mæg.		<i>And comes to it when it may.</i>
Ný nu oþer eorþan.	135	<i>There is not now over the earth</i>
ænezu 7erþeart.		<i>Any creature,</i>
þe ne wílnie þæt hio.		<i>Which does not desire,</i>
polde cuman.		<i>That it should come,</i>
to þam earðe.		<i>To that region,</i>
þe hio of becom.	140	<i>Which it came from,</i>
þæt íf orþorþner.		<i>That is, security,</i>
and ecu 7eþt.		<i>And eternal rest ;</i>
þæt íf openlice.		<i>Which is clearly,</i>
ælmíhtý Góð.		<i>Almighty God.</i>

Nīr nu ofer eorþan.	145	There is not now over the earth
ænegu geſceart.		Any creature,
þe ne hƿearfge.		Which does not revolve
ſpa ſpa hƿeol deð.		As a wheel does,
on hīre ſelfne.		On itself ;
forþon hīo ſpa hƿearfað.	150	For it so turns,
þæt hīo eft cume.		That it again comes,
þær hīo æron ƿær.		Where it before was.
þonne hīo æfeſt ſe.		When it is first
utan behƿerfed.		Put in circular motion,
þonne hīo ealler ƿyrð.	155	Then it altogether is
utan beceƿfed.		Turned round ;
hīo ſceol eft ðon.		It must again do
þæt hīo ær dýde.		That which before it did,
and eac ƿeran.		And also be,
þæt hīo æron ƿær.	160	What it before was.

METRE XIV.*

Ðæt bið þam pelegan.	WHAT	is <i>it</i> to the rich
populð-gitſene.		Worldly miser,
on hīr mode þe bet.		In his mind the better,
þeah he micel aȝe.		Though he possess much
golber ȝ gūmma.	5	Of gold and gems,

* Boet. Lib. iii. Met. iii. Quamvis fluente dives auri gurgite, &c.

and gooda gehpær.	And of every kind of goods
æhta unrim.	Immense possessions?
and him mon eþigen ꝛcyle.	And for him men shall plough
æghpelce dæg.	Every day,
æcepa þurend.	10 A thousand fields?
Ðeah þeƿ middan gearð.	Though this middle earth,
and þiƿ manna cýn.	And this race of men,
ꝛý undeƿ runnan.	Under <i>the</i> sun,
ꝛuð peƿt 7 eaƿt.	South west and east,
hiƿ anpalde eall.	15 Be to his power
undeƿþiedeð.	All subjected,
ne mot he þaƿa hýƿta.	He cannot of these ornaments
hiona ne læðan.	Hence take away,
of þiƿƿe populde.	From this world,
puhte þon mape.	20 Anything the more
hoƿð-geƿtƿeona.	Of his treasures,
þonne he hiþeƿ bƿohte.	Than he hither brought.
Ða ƿe ƿiƿðom þa þiƿ hioð ^t	When Wisdom had sung
aƿunzen hæƿde. þa ongan	This lay, then he began
he eƿt ƿpellian and cƿæð. 25	Again to speak, and said.

METRE XV.*

Ðeah hine nu.	THOUGH now himself
ƿe ýƿela unƿihtƿiƿa.	The evil, unrighteous

^t This and the two following lines are prose.

^u Boet. Lib. iii. Met. iv. *Quamvis se Tyrio, superbus ostro, &c.*

Neƿon cýnincg.
 nýpan ƷerƷeƿte.
 pliteƷum ƿædum.
 ƿundorlice.
 Ʒolde ƷeƷlenƷde.
 and Ʒim-cýnnum.
 þeah he ƿær on ƿoruldre.
 ƿitena Ʒehƿelcum.
 on hýr lif-dagum.
 lað and unƿeorð.
 ƿieƿen-full.
 hpæt re feond Ʒƿa þeah.
 hýr diorlingaƷ.
 duƷuðum Ʒteƿte.
 ne mæg ic þeah ƷehýcƷan.
 hpý him on hýre þorƷte.
 aþý Ʒæl ƿeƷan.
 þeah hi Ʒume hƿile.
 Ʒecupe butan cƿæƷtum.
 cýninga ðýreƷaƷt.
 næƿon hý þý ƿeorðƿan.
 ƿitena æneƷum.
 þeah hine re ðýrýga.
 do to cýninge.
 hu mæg þ ƷeƷceadƿýr.
 Ʒcealc Ʒeƿeccan.
 þæt he him þý Ʒelƿa.
 Ʒe oððe þince.

King, Nero,
 Newly adorned,
 5 With splendid garments,
 Wonderfully
 Decorated *himself* with gold
 And jewels;
 Nevertheless he was in the world,
 10 To every wise man,
 In his lifetime,
 Loathsome and unworthy,
 Full of crimes.
 Although the fiend,
 15 His favourites
 With honours decked,
 I nevertheless cannot discover
 Why to them in their mind,
He needed the better to be.
 20 Though sometimes those
 Without virtues,
 The most foolish of kings chose,
 They were not the more worthy
 To any one of the wise.
 25 Though the foolish
 Make himself a king,
 How can a wise
 Man reckon,
 That he to him the better
 30 Should be or seem?

METRE XVI.*

Se þe wille anpald agon.	HE that will power possess,
þonne sceal he ænert tilian.	Then shall he first endeavour
þæt he his selfes.	That he of himself,
on gefan age.	In his mind,
anpald innan.	5 Power may possess :
þy læs hi æfre sie.	Lest he ever be,
his unþearum.	To his vices,
eall underþyded.	All subjected.
ado of his mode.	Let him put away from his mind
myrcna þela.	10 A great variety
þara ymbhogona.	Of those cares,
þe him unnet sie.	Which are unprofitable to him :
læte sume hwile.	(Cease awhile
riofunga.	From thy complaints
and eorþa þinra.	15 And miseries.)
Deah him eall sie.	Though to him should be,
þes middan gearð.	This middle earth,
swa swa meges-ferreamas.	As the seas
utan belicgað.	Surround it,
on æht gifen.	20 For a possession given,

* Boet. Lib. iii. Met. v. Qui se uolet esse potentem, &c.

eƿne ƿpa ƿiðe.
 ƿpa ƿpa ƿeƿmeƿt nu.
 an iƿlonð liƿð.
 ut on ƿapƿecƿ.
 þæƿ nængu bið.
 niht on ƿumeƿa.
 ne ƿuhte þon ma.
 on ƿintƿa ðæƿ.
 toteleð tiðum.
 þæt iƿ Tile haten.
 þeah nu anƿa hƿa.
 ealleƿ ƿealde.
 þæƿ iƿlanðeƿ.
 and eac þonan.
 oð Inðear.
 earƿe-ƿearðe.
 þeah he nu þ eall.
 aƿan mote.
 hƿy bið hiƿ anƿalð.
 auhte þy maƿa.
 ƿiƿ he ƿiðþan nah.
 hiƿ ƿelƿeƿ ƿeƿealð.
 inƿeþancer.
 and hine eopneƿte.
 ƿel ne beƿapenað.
 ƿopðum ƿ ðæðum.
 ƿið þa unþeapƿ.
 þe ƿe ƿymb ƿƿnecað.

Even as wide,
 As most westward now,
 An island lies,
 Out in the ocean,
 25 Where is no
 Night in summer,
 Nor aught the more
 Day in winter
 Reckoned,
 30 Which is called Thule;
 Though now any one
 Ruled all
 This island,
 And also thence
 35 To *the* Indies
 Eastward;
 Though he now all that
 Might possess,
 Why would his power be
 40 Aught the greater,
 If he afterwards have not
 Power over
 His own mind,
 And himself in earnest,
 45 Does not well guard,
 In words and deeds,
 Against the vices,
 That we are speaking about?

METRE XVII.*

Ðæt eorðþapan.
 ealle hæfden.
 folð-buende.
 fnuman gelicne.
 hi of anum tƿæm.
 ealle comon.
 ƿepe ⁊ ƿife.
 on ƿoruld innan.
 and hi eac nu ȝet.
 ealle gelice.
 on ƿoruld cumað.
 place ⁊ heane.
 niſ ꝥ nan ƿundor.
 forþæm ƿitan ealle.
 þæt an God iſ.
 ealra ȝerƿearfa.
 fnea moncýnner.
 fæder and fciƿpend.
 fe þære funnan leoht.
 feleð of heofonum.

Wisdom said that mortals
Inhabiting the earth,
All had
A like beginning;
 5 *They from one pair,*
All came,
Men and women
Into the world;
And they also still
 10 *All alike*
Into the world come,
Rich and poor.
This is no wonder,
For all know
 15 *That there is one God*
Of all creatures,
Lord of mankind,
Father and Creator.
He to the sun light
 20 *Gives from heaven,*

* Boet. Lib. iii. Met. vi. Omne hominum genus in terris, &c.

monan ⁊ þýrum' mærum	To <i>the</i> moon and these bright
ŕceorþum.	stars.
ŕe geŕceop men on eorþan.	He created men on earth,
and geŕamnade.	And united
ŕaple to lice.	<i>The</i> soul to <i>the</i> body,
æt ŕnuman æŕeŕt.	25 First at <i>the</i> beginning.
ŕolc under ŕolcnum.	<i>He</i> created equally noble
emn æþele geŕceop.	The people under the clouds,
æghŕilcne mon.	Every man.
Ðŕý ge þonne æŕne.	Why do ye then ever,
oŕeŕ oðŕe men.	30 Over other men,
oŕeŕmodiŕen.	Proudly exalt yourselves,
buton andŕeoŕce.	Without cause,
nu ge unæþelne.	Since ye do not find
ænig ne metað.	Any ignoble?
Ðŕý ge eop ŕor æþelum.	35 Why do ye for your nobility
up ahebben nu.	Lift up yourselves?
On þæm mode bið.	In the mind is
monna gehŕilcum.	To every one of men
þa ŕiht æþelo.	The true nobility
þe ic þe ŕecce ýmb.	40 That I am telling thee about;
naleŕ on þæm ŕlæŕce.	Not in the flesh
ŕold-buendŕa.	Of the dwellers upon earth.
Ac nu æghŕilc mon.	But now every man,
þe mid ealle bið.	That withal is
hiŕ unþeapum.	45 To his vices
underþieded.	Subjected;

he forlæt ænre.	He first forsakes
lifer frum-ſceaf.	The first origin of life,
and his aſene.	And his own
æþelo ſpa ſelfe.	50 So peculiar nobility;
and eac þone fæder.	And also the Father,
þe hine æt fruman geſceop.	Who him at first created.
forþæm hine anæþelað.	Therefore, Almighty God
ælmihtra God.	Will him degrade,
þæt he unæþele.	55 That he ignoble
á forð þanan.	Ever, thenceforth
þýrð on peorulde.	In <i>the</i> world may be,
to pulðre ne cýmð.	<i>And</i> not come to glory.

METRE XVIII.*

Eala þ̅ re ýpla.	ALAS! that the evil,
unrihta gedede.	Unrighteous,
þraþa þilla.	Violent desire
poh-hæmeteſ.	Of unlawful lust should,
þæt he mid ealle gedraepð.	5 —That it withal should trouble,
anpa gehþýlceſ.	Full nigh the mind
monna cýnneſ.	Of every one
mod fulneah þon.	Of the human race!

* Boet. Lib. iii. Met. vii. Habet omnis hoc voluptas, &c.

hpæt ƿio ƿilbe beo.

þeah ƿiſ ƿie.

anunga ƿceal.

eall ƿorpeorþan.

ƿiſ hio ƿƿiunga.

apuhƿ ƿtingeð.

ƿƿa ƿceal ƿapla ƿehƿilc.

ƿiðþan loſian.

ƿiſ ƿe lichoma.

ƿorleƿan ƿeorþeð.

unƿiht-hæmede.

bute him æƿ cume.

hƿeop to heortan.

æƿ he hionan ƿende.

Now the wild bee,

10 Though she be wise,

Shall at once,

Altogether perish,

If she angrily

Anything sting.

15 So shall every soul

Afterwards perish,

If the body

Be guilty of

Adultery ;

20 Unless to it previously come

Repentance to the heart,

Before it depart hence.

METRE XIX.*

ƿeala ꝥ iſ heƿiƿ ðýſiƿ.

hýƿeð ƿmbe ƿe þe ƿile.

and ƿƿecenlic.

ƿiƿa ƿehƿilcum.

þæt þa earman men.

mið ealle ƿeðƿæleð.

oſ þæm ƿihtan ƿeƿe.

ALAS! that is a grievous folly,

Let him consider it who will,

And dangerous,

To every man,

5 Which these wretched men

Entirely seduces

From the right way,—

* Beet. Lib. iii. Met. viii. Eheu, quam miseros tramite devio, &c.

ƿecene alædeð.	Continually misled!
Ðƿæþeƿ Ʒe ƿillen.	Do ye now desire
on ƿuða ƿecan.	10 In woods to seek
Ʒold þæt ƿeade.	The red gold,
on Ʒƿenum tƿioƿum.	On green trees?
Ic ƿat ƿƿa þeah.	I know, however,
þæt hit ƿitena nan.	That no wise man
þideƿ ne ƿeceð.	15 Seeks it there;
ƿoƿþæm hit þæƿ ne ƿeƿeð.	For it grows not there,
ne on ƿinƷearðum.	Nor in vineyards
ƿlitige Ʒimmaƿ.	Beautiful gems.
Ðƿý Ʒe nu ne ƿettan.	Why do ye now not set
on ƿume ðune.	20 On some hill
ƿiƿc net eoƿƿu.	Your fishing net,
þonne eoƿ ƿon lýrteð.	When you desire to take
leax oððe cýƿeƿan. ^b	Salmon or carp?
Me Ʒelicoƿt þincð.	To me <i>it</i> seems most likely,
þæt te ealle ƿiten.	25 That all inhabitants of earth,
eoƿð-buende.	Wise in mind,
þoncol-mode.	Know that they
þæt hi þæƿ ne ƿint.	Are not there.
Ðƿæþeƿ Ʒe nu ƿillen.	Are ye now desirous
ƿæþan mið hundum.	30 To hunt with hounds
on realtne ƿæ.	In <i>the</i> salt sea,
þonne eoƿ ƿecan lýrte.	When you wish to seek
heoƿotaƿ Ʒ hinda.	Harts and hinds?

^b Lye does not give a definite translation to cýƿeƿa, but calls it piscis genus. My translation is merely conjectural.

þu gehýcgan meah̃t.
 þæt ge pillað þa.
 on puda recan.
 oꝛtop micle.
 þonne ut on ƿæ.
 Iƿ þ̃ pundoplic.
 þæt pe ƿitan ealle.
 þæt mon recan ƿceal.
 be ƿæ-ƿapode.
 and be ea-oꝛnum.
 æþele gímmar.
 hwite and neade.
 and hƿa gehƿær.
 Hƿæt hi eac ƿiton.
 hwær hi ea-ƿýcar.
 recan þurƿan.
 and ƿƿýlcra ƿela.
 peopuld-pelema.
 hi þ̃ pel doð.
 geopnfulle men.
 geapra gehƿilc.
 ac þ̃ iƿ eapmlicor̃t.
 ealra þinga.
 þæt þa ðýreƿan ƿint.
 on gedƿolan ƿopdene.
 eƿne ƿra blinde.
 þæt hi on bƿeoꝛtum ne magon.
 eaðe gecnapan.
 hwær þa ecan good.

Thou mayest suppose
 35 That ye will them
 In woods seek
 Much oftener,
 Than out in *the* sea.
 Is it wonderful
 40 That we all know
 That any one must seek
 By the sea shore,
 And by river banks,
 Noble gems,
 45 White and red,
 And of every kind of hue?
 They moreover know,
 Where they river fishes
 Ought to seek,
 50 And many such
 Worldly acquisitions:
 They do this well,
 Prudent men,
 Every year.
 55 But this is the most wretched
 Of all things,
 That foolish men are
 So in error,
 Even so blind,
 That they in *their* breasts cannot
 Easily know,
 Where the eternal good,

roþa ƷeƷælþa.	True felicities
Ʒindon Ʒehýðða.	Are hidden ;
Ʒonþæm hi æƷne ne lýrt. 65	Therefore they never care
æƷter Ʒpýpian.	To inquire after,
Ʒecan þa ƷeƷælþa.	To seek these felicities.
Þenað Ʒampýre.	<i>They</i> unwise think,
þæt hi on þýr lænan mæƷen.	That they in this transitory
lýre Ʒindan.	70 Life may find
roþa ƷeƷælþa.	True felicities,
þæt y Ʒelfa God.	That is God himself.
Ic nat hu ic mæƷe.	I know not how I may
nænýge þinga.	In any respect
ealles Ʒpa Ʒpíðe.	75 Altogether so greatly,
on ƷeƷan minum.	In my judgment,
hiopa ðýrýƷ tælan.	Their folly reprove
Ʒpa hit me ðon lýrteð.	As I wish to do :
ne ic þe Ʒpa Ʒpeotole.	Nor it so clearly
ƷeƷeƷƷan ne mæƷ.	80 May I declare.
Ʒonþæm hiƷ ^c Ʒint eapmpan.	For they are more wretched,
and eac ðýreƷƷan.	And also more foolish,
unƷeƷælýƷƷan.	<i>And</i> more unhappy,
þonne ic þe ƷeƷƷan mæƷe.	Than I to thee can describe.
Hi Ʒilmað.	85 They desire
Ʒelan and æhta.	Wealth and possessions,
and ƷeopðýƷeƷe.	And dignity
to ƷeƷinnanne.	To acquire ;
þonne hi habbað þæt.	When they have that

hioþa hize receð.
 penað þonne.
 ȝpa ȝepicleaȝe.
 þæt hi þa ȝoþan.
 ȝerælþa hæbben.

90 *Which* their minds seek,
They then suppose,
 So foolish *are they*,
 That they true
 Felicities possess.

METRE XX.^a

Eala min Drihten.
 þæt þu eart ælmihtig.
 micel modilic.
 mærpum ȝeƿnæȝe.
 and pundorlic.
 ƿitena ȝehƿylcum.
 Ðræt þu ece God.
 ealra ȝerceafta.
 pundorlice.
 ƿel ȝercope.
 unȝerepenlicra.^e
 and eac ȝpa ȝame.
 ȝerepenlicra.
 ȝofte ƿealder.
 ȝcīra ȝerceafta.
 mid ȝerceaþrum.

O, my Lord!
 Thou who art Almighty,
 Great, magnanimous,
 For miracles celebrated,
 5 And wonderful,
 To every one of the wise!
 Thou eternal God!
 All creatures
 Wonderfully
 10 Well hast made,
Those which are invisible,
 And also the same,
Those which are seen;
 Thou softly rulest
 15 *The* pure creatures,
 With rational

^a Boet. Lib. iii. Met. ix. O qui perpetuū mundum ratione gubernas, &c.

^e MS. unȝerepenlica.

mægne 7 crærte.	Power and skill.
Ðu þýrne midðan gearð.	Thou this middle earth
frum fruman ærert.	From <i>the</i> first beginning,
forð oð ende.	20 Forth until <i>the</i> end,
tíðum toðælðer.	By times hast divided,
frpa hit getærort pær.	As it was most suitable
enðebýrðer.	For order :
þæt hi æghræþer.	That they both
ge arpanað.	25 Depart
ge eptcumað.	And again return.
Ðu þe unrtilla.	Thou thine own
azna gercearta.	Restless creatures
to þinum pillan.	To thy will
prlice artýrert.	30 Wisely movest,
and þe rself punært.	And thou thyself remainest
prðe rtalle.	Very still,
unanpendendlic. ¹	Unchangeable,
á forð rímlle.	Always, for ever !
nir nan mihrtizna.	35 No one is mightier,
ne nan mærna.	Nor <i>is</i> any greater,
ne geond ealle þa gerceart.	Nor through all the creation,
ernlica þin.	<i>Is any</i> equal to thee.
ne þe æniz ned-þearf nær.	To thee no need there was
ærne giet ealra.	40 Ever yet of all

¹ In the MS. these two lines stand,
 unanpendendlica.
 forð rímlle.

The adverb a, through the error of some transcriber, was added to unanpendendlic, which, in copying a MS. was a very possible mistake.

þara peorca.	The works,
þe þu ȝeƿorht haƿarƿ.	Which thou haſt made ;
ac mið þinum ƿillan.	But by thy will
þu hit ƿorhter eall.	Thou maदेst it all,
and mið anƿalde.	45 And by thine
þinum aȝenum.	Own power,
peorulde ȝeƿorhter.	Didst create <i>the</i> world,
and ƿuhta ȝehƿæt.	And every creature ;
þeah þe næneȝu.	Though to thee
neð-þearf ƿære eallra.	50 Was no neceſſity of all
þara mænþa.	These miracles !
Iſ þ̅ micel ȝecȳnð.	Great is the nature
þiner ȝoodeſ.	Of thy goodness ;—
þencð ȳmb ȝe þe ƿile.	Consider it who will :
ƿorþon hit iſ eall an.	55 For it is all one
ælceſ þincȝer.	In every thing,
þu ȝ þ̅ þin ȝood.	Thou and thy good ;
hit iſ þin aȝen.	It is thine own,
ƿorþæm hit niſ ^s utan.	For it is not from without,
ne com auht to þe.	60 Nor did aught come to thee.
Ac ic ȝeopne ƿat.	But I well know,
þæt þin ȝoodneſ iſ.	That thy goodness is
ælmihƿiȝ ȝood.	Almighty good,
eall mið þe ȝelfum.	All with thyſelf.
Hit iſ unȝelic.	65 It is unlike
urum ȝecȳnde.	To our nature :
uſ iſ utan cȳmen.	To us from without came

eall þa pe habbað.	All that we have
Ʒooda on Ʒrundum.	Of goods on earth,
ƿrom Gode ſelfum.	70 From God himself.
Næƿt þu to ænegum.	Thou hast not towards any
andān Ʒenumenne.	Conceived envy,
ƿorþam þe nan þing niſ.	For nothing is
þin Ʒelica.	Like unto thyself;
ne hupu æniƷ.	75 Nor <i>is</i> any
ælcƿærtiƷne.	More skilful :
ƿorþam þu eal Ʒood.	For thou all good,
anef Ʒeþeahƿe.	Of thine own thought,
þiner Ʒeþohƿeƿt.	Didst devise,
and hi þa ƿorhƿeƿt.	80 And then didst it create.
næſ æƿop þe. ^h	There was not before thee
ænegu Ʒeſceafƿt.	Any creature,
þe auht oððe nauht.	Which either aught or naught
auþer ƿorhƿe.	Could make,
Ac þu butan bƷƷne.	85 But thou without a pattern,
bƷeƷo moncƷnneſ.	Ruler of mankind,
æl ælmihtig Gode.	All Almighty God,
eall Ʒeƿorhƿeƿt.	Madest all
þing þearfe Ʒood.	Things very good ;
eaƿt þe ſelfa.	90 And thou thyself art
þæt hehƿe Ʒood.	The highest good !
Ðƿæt þu halig fæder.	Thou, O Holy Father,
æƿteſ þinum Ʒillan.	After thy will,
ƿopulð Ʒeſceope.	Didst <i>the</i> world create,

^h MS. næſ æƿopþe.

þyrne middan ȝearð.	95 This middle earth,
meahtum þinum.	By thy power,
ƿeopada Drihten.	Lord of Hosts,
ȝpa þu poldeȝt ȝelf.	As thou thyself wouldest;
and mid þinum ƿillan.	And with thy will
pealdeȝt ealler.	100 Governest <i>it</i> all!
ƿorþæm þu ȝoþa Groð.	For thou, O true God,
ȝelfa ðaleȝt.	Didst thyself distribute
ȝooda æȝhpilc.	All goods;
ƿorþæm þu ȝeara ær.	For thou long ago,
ealle ¹ ȝerċearfa.	105 All creatures
æneȝt ȝerċeoƿe.	Didst first create,
ȝriðe ȝelice.	Very much alike,
ȝumer hƿæþne þeah.	Yet in some degree
unȝelice.	Unlike;
nemdeȝt eall ȝpa þeah.	110 Yet thou didst name all
mid ane noman.	With one name,
ealle toȝæðere.	All together,
ƿoruld under ƿolcnum.	THE WORLD under the clouds.
hwæt þu ƿulðneȝ Groð.	But thou, O God of glory!
þone anne naman.	115 That one name
eȝt toðældeȝ.	Didst again divide,
ƿæðer on ƿeoƿer.	O Father, into four:
ƿær þara ƿolde an.	Of these one was earth,
and ƿæteȝ oþer.	And the second water,
ƿorulde ðaleȝ.	120 Of the divisions of the world,

¹ Hickes states that *ealla* is used poetically for *ealle*: but I am inclined to think that *ealla*, when it occurs in Boethius, is inaccurate, and have therefore corrected the MS. reading.

and fȳr ȳ þriddre.
and feoperðe lȳft.
þæt ȳ eall weoruld.
eft togedere.

Ðabbað þeah þa feoper. 125
frem-fot hiora.
æghwīc hiora.
azenne fteðe.
þeah anra hwīc.
wið oþer ge.

mīclum gemenged.
and mid mægne eac.
fæder ælmihtiges.
færte gebunden.
geþrice.

forste togedere.
mid bebode þine.
bilep fæder.
þæt te heora ænig.

oþres ne dorste.
meanc oferhangan.
for metodes ege.
ac geðweorod sint.

þegnas togedere.
cyniges cempa.
cele wið hæto.
þæt wið drigum.
winnað hwæþre.
wæter ȳ eorðe.

And *the* third is fire,
And *the* fourth air;
That is all the world
Again together.

Yet have the four
Their original station;
Each one of them
Its own place:
Though each of them
130 Be with other
Much mixed;
And also by the power
Of *the* Father Almighty
Fast bound,

135 Peaceably,
And suitably together,
By thy command,
O merciful Father!
So that any of them
140 Durst not *the* others
Boundary overpass,
For dread of *the* Creator;
But they are consenting
Servants together,

145 Soldiers of the king.
Cold with heat,
Wet with dry,
However strive.
Water and earth

pærtmar bþenzað.	150 Bring fruits ;
þa ƿint on gecýnde.	These are by nature
cealða ba tpa.	Both cold.
pæten pæt ƿ cealb.	Water wet and cold,
pangar ýmbe-liczað.	Lieth round <i>the</i> fields.
eorðe æl ƿpeno.	155 With the earth all green
eac hpæþne cealb lýft.	The cold air nevertheless
ƿ ƿemengeð.	Is mingled,
ƿonþæm hio on middum punað.	For it in <i>the</i> middle dwells.
nƿ þ nan pundop.	It is no wonder
þæt hio ƿie peapm ƿ cealb.	160 That it is warm and cold,—
þæt polcney tiep.	<i>The</i> wet expanse of clouds
ƿinde geblonden.	Mingled by the wind ;
ƿonþæm hio ƿ on mible.	For it is in the middle,
mine ƿepnæge.	In my opinion,
ƿýner ƿ eorþan.	165 Between fire and earth.
Fela monna pat.	Many men know
þæt te ýpemeſt ƿ.	That fire is the uppermost
eallpa ƿerceanfta.	Of all creatures
ƿýn oþer eorþan.	Over <i>the</i> earth,
ƿolde neopemeſt.	170 <i>And the</i> ground the lowest.
ƿ þæt pundoplic.	Wonderful is that,
ƿepoda Dnihten.	O Lord of Hosts !
þæt þu mid geþeahte.	Which thou with thine
þinum ƿýnceſt.	Own counsel workest ;
þæt þu þæm ƿerceanftum.	175 That thou to thy creatures
ƿpa ƿerceanðlice.	So wisely
meapce ƿeretteſt.	Settest bounds,
and hi ne mengdeſt eac.	And moreover dost not mix them.

Ðpæt þu þæm pættepe.	Thou to the water
pætum 7 cealdum.	180 Wet and cold,
polðan to flope.	The earth for a floor
pærte gerettegt.	Firmly settest ;
forþæm hit unyttille.	Because it <i>being</i> restless,
æghwider polde.	Would everywhere
pwde tofcrifan.	185 Widely wander,
pac and hnefce.	Weak and soft ;
ne meahte hit on him felfum.	Nor could it of itself,
foð ic gearne pat.	(I well know <i>it is</i> true)
æfpe geftandan.	Ever stand :
ac hit fwo eorðe.	190 But the earth
hilt 7 fpefgeð eac.	Holds it, and also imbibes,
be fumum ðæle.	In some measure,
þæt hio fwoðþan mæg.	That it afterwards may,
for þæm fype peorþan.	Through that moistening be
geleht fweftum.	195 Lightened by the air.
forþæm leaf 7 gæfpe.	Therefore leaves and grass,
bræð geond Bpnetene.*	Wide over Britain,
blopeð 7 gfopeð.	Blow and grow,
elðum to ape.	For wealth to men.
Eorðe fwo cealde.	200 The cold earth
bpnefð pæftma fela.	Bringeth many fruits,
pundoflicpa.	More wonderful,
forþæm hio mwf þæm pætepe.	Because it with the water
peorþað gefapeneð.	Is moistened.

* This passage, among others, shews that Alfred applied the reasonings and language of Boethius to himself and his own country.

gıf þ næpe.	205 If it were not,
þonne hıo pæpe.	Then would it be
forðrugod to durte.	Dried to dust,
and todrıpen ƿıðþan.	And afterwards driven
ƿıde mıð ƿınde.	Wide by <i>the</i> wind ;
ƿpa nu ƿeoƿþað oƿt.	210 As now often are
axe gıond eoƿþan.	Ashes over the earth
eall toblapen.	All blown.
Ne meahƿe on þæpe eoƿþan.	Nor could on the earth
apuht libban.	Aught live,
ne puhte þon ma.	215 Nor anything the more
pætƿeƿ bƿucan.	Enjoy <i>the</i> water,
oneapdian.	Or dwell
ænıge cƿæƿte.	By any means,
ƿor cele anum.	Through cold alone :
gıf þu cýning engla.	220 If thou, King of angels,
ƿıð ƿýpe hpæt-hƿugu.	With fire in some measure,
ƿoldan ƿ lagu-ƿneam.	Earth and seas
ne menzdeƿt togzædepe.	Didst not mingle ;
and gemetgzodeƿt.	And temper
cele ƿ hæto.	225 Cold and heat
cƿæƿte þıne.	By thy skill,
þæt þ ƿýp ne mæg.	So that the fire may not
ƿoldan ƿ mepe-ƿneam.	<i>The</i> earth and seas
blate ƿorþæpnan.	Widely burn up,
þeah hit ƿıð ba tƿa ƿıe.	230 Though it with both be
ƿæƿte zezezed.	Fast joined ;
ƿædeƿ eald zezeoƿc.	<i>The</i> ancient work of <i>the</i> Father.
ne þıncð me þ ƿundup.	Nor seems to me that wonder

puhte þe læsse.	Anything the less,
þæt þior eorðe mæg.	235 That this earth,
and egor-rtneam.	And seas,
ƿpa ceald Ʒercean.	Such cold creatures,
cnæpta nane.	Can by no means,
ealles adpærcan.	Wholly extinguish
þæt ƿ him on innan ƿticað.	That which in them remains
ƿýner ƷerfeƷed.	240 Of fire, joined
mið ƿnean cnæpte.	By <i>the</i> Lord's power.
þæt iƿ agen cnæpt.	Such is the peculiar power
eagor-rtneamer.	Of <i>the</i> seas,
ƿætnes ƿ eorþan.	245 Of water and earth,
and on polcnum eac.	And also in the clouds,
and efne ƿpa ƿame.	And even the same
uppe ofer ƿodeƿe.	Up above the sky.
Ðonne iƿ þæs ƿýner.	Then is the fire's
ƿnum-rtol on ƿiht.	250 Proper station
eapð ofer eallum.	<i>And</i> dwelling over all
oðrum Ʒerceanum.	Other creatures
Ʒerepenlicum.	Visible,
Ʒeond þýne ƿðan Ʒrund.	Through this wide earth;
þeah hit ƿið ealle ¹ ƿie.	255 Though it with all
eft ƷemenƷed.	Worldly creatures
peopulð-Ʒercean.	Is still mixed:
þeah ƿalðan ne mot.	Yet it cannot prevail,
þæt hit æniƷe.	That it any
eallunga ƿoðo.	260 Altogether should destroy

¹ MS. ealla.

buton þær leafe.	Without his leave,
þe ur þiſ lif tīode.	Who to us this life decreed :
þæt iſ ſe eca.	That is the Eternal,
and ſe ælmihtiga.	And the Almighty.
Eorðe iſ heſigre.	265 Earth is heavier
oðrum geſceaptum.	Than other creatures,
þicre geþnuen.	More closely compressed ;
forþæm hio þnaze ſtod.	Because it long has stood
ealra geſceapta.	Of all creatures
under niþemæſt.	270 The nethermost,
buton þæm nodeſe.	Except the sky,
þe þaſ numan geſceapt.	Which this wide creation
æghwylce dæge.	Every day,
utan ymhwyſſeð.	Moves round,
and þeah þæne eorþan.	275 And yet the earth
æfre ne oðwineð.	Never touches ;
ne hipe on nanre ne mot.	Nor can to it
neap þonne on oðre.	In any place approach
ſtope geſtæppan.	Nearer than in another.
ſtwiceð ymbutan.	280 It holds its course around,
uſane 7 neoþane.	Above and beneath,
eſen neah gehwæþer.	Equally near everywhere.
æghwylc geſceapt.	Every creature,
þe ſe ymb ſpnecað.	That we are speaking about,
hæfð hiſ aſenne.	285 Has its own
eaſd on ſundran.	Station apart,
bið þeah wið þæm oðrum.	And yet is with the others
eac gemenget.	Also mixed.
Ne mæg hwa ænig.	Nor can any of them

- butan oðrum bion. 290 Without *the* others exist,
 þeah hi unŕpeotole. Though they indistinctly
 ŕomod eapdien. Remain together ;
 ŕpa nu eopðe 7 pæter. As now earth and water
 eapfoð tæcne. Dwell in fire,
 unpŕpa gehpæm. 295 Difficult to be shewn,
 puniað on fýne. To any of the unwise ;
 þeah hi 7int an. Though they are
 7peotole þæm piŕum. Clear to the learned.
 I7 þ fýp ŕpa 7ame. In like manner is fire
 7æ7t on þæm pæ7ne. 300 Fast in the water,
 and on 7tanum eac. And in stones also
 7tille geheded. Fixed hidden ;
 eapfoð hape i7. *It* is difficult to be seen.
 hpæþne þæp hapað. There however has
 7æðep engla. 305 *The* Father of angels
 fýp gebunden. Bound *the* fire
 epne to þon 7æ7te. Even so fast,
 þæt hit 7iolan ne mæg. That it cannot join itself
 e7t æt hi7 eðle. Again to its own region,
 þæp þ oþep fýp. 310 Where that other fire
 up oþep eall þi7. Up over all this
 eapð 7æ7t punað. Earth fast dwells.
 7ona hit 7oplateð. Soon it would leave
 þa7 lænan 7epceap7. This frail creation,
 mid cele oþepcumen. 315 Overcome with cold,
 7i7 hit on cýððe 7epit. If it to *its* country did depart ;
 and þeah puhta gehpŕlc. And yet everything
 pi7nað þiðep-peapð. Tends thitherward,

þær hīr mægðe bið.	Where its kindred are
mæȝt ætgæðne.	320 Most together.
Ðu ȝeſtaþoladeȝt.	Thou hast established,
þurh þa ^m ſtronȝan meaht.	Through thy strong might,
ƿeƿoda ƿuldoſ cýning.	Glorious King of Hosts !
ƿundorlice.	Wonderfully,
eorþan ƿpa ƿæȝte.	325 The earth so fast,
þæt hīo on ænige.	That it on any
healfe ne heldeð.	Side halts not,
ne mæg hīo hīdeſ ne þīdeſ.	Nor can it hither or thither
ſȝan þe ƿƿiþoſ.	Fall more
þe hīo ſýmle dýde.	330 Than it always did.
Ðƿæt hī þeah eorðliceȝ.	Although nothing
auht ne haldeð.	Earthly holds it,
īſ þeah eƿn eðe.	Yet is it equally easy
up and oȝ ðune.	To this earth,
to ƿeallanne.	335 To fall
ƿoldan þīȝȝe.	Up and down ;
þæm anlicorȝ.	Most like to which <i>is this</i> ,
þe on æȝe bið.	That in an egg
ȝioleca on midðan.	The yolk is in the middle,
ȝlideð hpæþne.	340 However rolls
æȝ ýmbutan.	The egg about.
ƿpa ſtent eall ƿeoƿulð.	So stands all the world
ſtille on tille.	Immoveable in its station,
ſtreamaſ ýmbutan.	Above <i>the</i> streams,
laȝu-ƿloda ȝelac.	345 The assembly of waters.

^m þa is used in several places for þin.

lyfte ⁊ tungla.	<i>The</i> air and stars,
and ſio ſcine ſcell.	And the pure shell,
ſcſiþeð ýmbutan.	Revolve about <i>it</i> ,
doƒoſa gehpilce.	Every day,
dýde lange ſpa.	350 As <i>they</i> long have done.
Ðpæt þu þioða ġoð.	Thou God of nations,
þneſalde on uſ.	In us haſt ſet
ſaple ƒeſetteſt.	A threefold ſoul,
and hi ſiðþan eac.	And alſo afterwards
ſtýneſt and tihteſt.	355 Moveſt and exciteſt it,
þurh þa ſtſonƒan meaht.	By thy ſtrong power ;
þæt hiſe þý læſſe.	That of it leſſ
on þam lýtlan ne bið.	There ſhould not be
anum ſingſe.	In the little finger alone,
þe hiſe on eallum bið.	360 Than there is of it
þam lichoman.	In all the body.
ſonþam ic lýtle æp.	Therefore a little before,
ſpeotole ſæde.	I clearly ſaid,
þæt ſio ſapl pæpe.	That the ſoul is
þneſald ƒeſceafst.	365 A threefold creation,
þeƒna gehpilceſ.	Of every man ;
ſonþam uðſitan.	Because philoſophers
ealle ſeƒgað.	All ſay,
þæt te an ƒeƒýnd.	That one nature
ælcne ſaule.	370 Of every ſoul
ýpſung pæpe."	Should be anger,
oþeſ pilnung.	Another will ;

is ƿio þriððe gecýnd.	The third nature is
þæm twæm betere.	Better than these two,
ƿio gerceadƿirner.	375 <i>Namely</i> , reason.
Nis þ ƿcandlic cræft.	This is not a mean faculty,
ƿorþæm hit nænig hafað.	For it no beast possesses,
neat buton monnum.	But men <i>alone</i> .
hæfð þa oþra twa.	The other two
unƿim puhta.	380 Innumerable things possess.
hæfð þa ƿilnunga.	Well nigh every beast
ƿel hƿilc neten.	Has will,
and þa ýrrunga.	And anger
eac ƿpa relfe.	Also of itself.
ƿorþý men habbað.	385 Therefore men have
geond middan gearð.	Throughout <i>the</i> middle earth,
eorð-gerceafra.	Earthly creatures
ealle° oƿerþungen.	All surpassed;
ƿorþæm þe hi habbað.	Because they have
þær þe hi nabbað.	390 That which these have not,
þone ænne cræft.	The single faculty
þe ƿe ær nemdon.	Which we before named.
ðio gerceadƿirner.	The reason ought
ƿceal on gehƿelcum.	In every one
þære ƿilnunge.	395 The will
ƿaldan remle.	Always to govern,
and ýrrunge.	And anger
eac ƿpa relfe.	Also of itself.
hio ƿceal mid geþeahte.	She shall with counsel,

- þegneſ mode.
 mid andgite.
 ealleſ palban.
 hio iſ ꝥ mæſte mægen.
 monneſ ſaule.
 and ſe ſeleſta.
 ſundorſ cſæſta.
 Ðpæt þu þa ſaule.
 ſiȝora paldeſ.
 þeoda þſſym-cȳning.
 þuſ ſeſceope.
 þæt hio hpeaſſode.
 on hipe ſeſſe.
 hipe utan ſymb.
 ſpa ſpa eal deð.
 ſiſne ſſiſte ſodorſ.
 ſecene ſymbſcſiþeð.
 doȝora ſehſilce.
 Ðſiſhtneſ meahtum.
 þiſne miððan ſeapð.
 ſpa deð monneſ ſaul.
 hpeole ſeliſoſt.
 hpeaſſeð ſymb hȳ ſeſſe.
 oſt ſmeagende.
 ſymb þaſ eoſðlican.
 Ðſiſhtneſ ſeſceapſta.
 daȝum ꝥ nihtum.
 hſilum hi ſeſſe.
 ſecende ſmeað.
- 400 *And* with understanding,
The mind of every man
 Govern.
 She is the greatest power
 Of man's soul,
 405 And the best
 Peculiar faculty.
 Thou the soul,
 Triumphant Ruler,
 Glorious King of nations,
 410 Thus didst create,
 That it should turn
 On itself,
And about itself,
 As does all
 415 The sky in its swift course :
It swiftly revolves
 Every day,
 By *the* Lord's power
 Around this middle earth:
 420 So doth man's soul,
 Most like a wheel,
 Turn about herself,
 Oft inquiring
 About these earthly
 425 Creatures of *the* Lord,
 By day and night.
 Sometimes herself
 Seeking *she* inquires.

hpilum eft ʒmeað.	Sometimes again <i>she</i> inquires
ymb þone ecan Groð.	430 About the eternal God,
ʒceppend hipe.	Her Maker ;
ʒcniþende ʒærð.	<i>She</i> goes revolving
hpeole ʒelicoʒt.	Most like a wheel,
hpærƿð ymb hi ʒelfe.	Turns about herself.
þonne hio ymb hipe ʒcýppend.	When she about her Maker
mið ʒercean ʒmeað.	Rationally inquires,
hio bið upahæfen.	She is exalted
oʒer hi ʒelfe.	Above herself ;
ac hio bið eallunga.	But she is altogether
an hipe ʒelfe.	440 In herself
þonne hio ymb hi ʒelfe.	When she about herself
ʒecende ʒmeað.	Seeking inquires.
hio bið ʒwiðe ʒioʒ.	She is very far
hipe ʒelfe beneoþan.	Beneath herself,
þonne hio þæʒ lænan.	445 When she loves and admires
luʒað ʒ punðnað.	These transitory
eoʒðlicu þing.	Earthly things,
oʒer ecne ʒæð.	Above eternal knowledge.
Ðpæt þu ece Groð.	Thou eternal God,
earð ʒoʒgeape.	450 A dwelling givest
ʒaulum on heoʒonum.	To souls in heaven ;
ʒeleʒt peoʒðlica.	Thou wilt bestow honourable
ʒinʒæʒta ʒiʒa.	<i>And</i> most ample gifts,
Groð ælmihtig.	O God Almighty !
be ʒe earpnunga.	455 According to the deserts
anʒa ʒehpelcne.	Of every one.
ealle hi ʒcinað.	They all shall shine

þurh þa rcīpan .neaht.	Through the clear night
hadre on heorenum.	Serene in <i>the</i> heavens ;
na hræþre þeah.	460 Yet nevertheless not
ealle efenbeorhte.	All equally bright.
Ðræt pe oft gerioð.	Thus we often see
hadrum nihtum.	In clear nights,
þæt te heoron-ŕteorpan.	That the stars of heaven
ealle efenbeorhte.	465 All equally bright,
æfre ne rcīnað. ^Þ	Ever do not shine.
Ðræt þu ece Groð.	Thou, eternal God,
eac gemengeŕt.	Also mixest
þa heoroncundan.	The heavenly
hiþer rið eorþan.	470 Here with <i>the</i> earth ;
ŕaula rið lice.	Souls with bodies
riðþan puniað.	Afterwards remain ;—
þiŕ eorðlice.	This earthly
and þ ece ŕamod.	And the heavenly together,—
ŕaul in ŕlæŕce.	475 <i>The</i> soul in <i>the</i> flesh.
Ðræt hi ŕimle to þe.	But they always to thee
hiona ^a ŕundiað.	Hence tend,
ŕorþæm hi hideŕ of þe.	Because they hither from thee
æŕon comon.	Before came ;
ŕculon eft to þe.	480 They shall again <i>come</i> to thee.
ŕceal ŕe lichama.	The body shall
laŕt ŕearðigan.	At length dwell

^Þ The same reasoning is here used as that which St. Paul beautifully employed on a different subject. See 1 Cor. xv. 41.

^a MS. hi on.

eft on eorþan.	Again in <i>the</i> earth,
ƿorþæm he ær of hipe.	Because it before theſefrom
peox on peorulde.	485 Grew in the world.
ƿunedon æt ƿomne.	They dwelled together
eƿen ƿpa lange.	Even as long
ƿpa him lȳfed ƿær.	As to them was permitted
ƿrom þæm ælmihtigan.	By the Almighty,
þe hi æroþ ƿio.	490 Who them before
ƿeromnade.	United together.
þæt iſ ƿoð cȳning.	That is the true King,
ƿe þaſ ƿoldan ƿerceop.	Who this earth created,
and hi ƿerfylde þa.	And it filled
ƿriðe miſlicum.	495 With very various
mine ƿerƿæge.	Kinds of cattle,
neata cȳnnum.	In my opinion,
neƿgend uſer.	Our Redeemer.
he hi ƿiðþan aſioþ.	He afterwards ſowed it
ƿæda monegum.	500 With many ſeeds
ƿuda ȝ ƿȳnta.	Of trees and herbs,
peorulde ƿceatum.	In <i>the</i> worldly regions.
ƿorȝiſ nu ece ƿioð.	Grant now, eternal God,
uſum modum.	To our minds,
þæt hi moten to þe.	505 That they may to thee,
metoð alpuhta.	O Creator of all things,
þuſh þaſ earƿoþu.	Through theſe difficulties
up aſtigan.	Ascend :
and of þiſum biȳregum.	And from theſe occupations,
bilepiſ ƿædeþ.	510 Merciful Father,
þeoda ƿaldend.	Ruler of nations,

to þe cuman.	To thee come ;
and þonne mid openum.	And then may,
eazum moten.	With <i>the</i> open eyes
moder upeſ.	515 Of our mind,
þurh þinra mægna ſped.	Through <i>the</i> efficacy of thy power,
æpelm geſion.	Behold <i>the</i> fountain
eallra gooda.	Of all goods ;
þæt þu eaſt ſelſa.	That thou thyſelf art,
ſige Drihten God.	520 O Lord God of victory !
ge þa eazan hal.	Make ſound the eyes
upeſ moder.	Of our mind,
þæt we hi on þe ſelfum.	That we on thyſelf
ſiðþan moten.	Afterwards may
aſæſtnian.*	525 Fix them,
ſæðen engla.	O Father of angels !
toðniſ þone þiccan miſt.	Dispel the thick miſt,
þe þnaze nu.	Which now long while
ſið þa eazan ſonan.	Before the eyes
uſſeſ moder.	530 Of our mind
hangode hpyle.	Has hung,
heſiſ 7 þyrtne.	Heavy and dark.
Onliht nu þa eazan.	Enlighten now the eyes
uſſeſ moder.	Of our mind
mid þinum leohte.	535 With thy light,
liſeſ paldend.	Ruler of life ;
ſonþæm þu eaſt ſio biſhtu.	For thou art the brightness,
bilepiſ ſæðen.	O merciful Father,

* MS. æſæſtnian.

roþeƿ leohteƿ.	Of <i>the</i> true light :
and þu ƿeƿa eaƿt.	540 And thou thyself art
ƿio ƿæƿte næƿt.	The firm rest,
ƿædeƿ ælmihtig.	O Father Almighty !
eallƿa ƿoðƿæƿtƿa.	Of all the faithful.
Ðƿæt þu ƿoƿte geðeƿt.	Indeed thou causest,
þæt hi þe ƿeƿne.	545 That they thyself
geƿion moten.	May see.
Ðu eaƿt eallƿa þinga.	Thou art of all things,
þeoda ƿaldend.	O Ruler of nations !
ƿƿuma 7 ende.	<i>The</i> beginning and end.
Ðƿæt þu ƿædeƿ engla.	550 Thou, Father of angels,
eall þing biƿeƿt.	All things bearest
eþelice.	Easily,—
buton geƿpince.	Without labour.
Ðu eaƿt ƿeƿa ƿeƿ.	Thou art thyself <i>the</i> way,
and latteop eac.	555 And also <i>the</i> guide,
liƿgendƿa gehƿæƿ.	Of every one of <i>the</i> living ;
and ƿio ƿlitige ƿtop.	And the fair place,
þe ƿe ƿeƿ to liƿð.	That the way leads to.
þe ealle to.	To thee all
á ƿundiað.*	560 Men of earth,
men oƿ moldan.	In the great creation
on þa mæƿan geƿceƿt.	Always tend !

* MS. aƿundiaþ, as one word.

METRE XXI.*

þel la monna beapn.
 ʒeond middan ʒearð.
 ʃpionra æghpīlc.
 ʃundie to þæm.
 ecum ʒode.
 þe pe ýmb ʃpnecað.
 and to þæm ʒerælþum.
 þe pe ʃecʒað ýmb.
 ðe þe þonne nu ʃie.
 neapne ʒehearted.
 mið þýrreſ mæpan.
 middan ʒearðeſ.
 unnýtte luſe.
 ʃece him eft hſæðe.
 ʃulne ʃpīodom.
 þæt he ʃopð cume.
 to þæm ʒerælþum.
 ʃaula ʃaðeſ.
 ʃopþæm þ̅ iſ ʃio anaⁿ ʃeſt.
 eallra ʒeſpīnca.

WELL, O children of men,
 Throughout *the* middle earth !
 Let every one of *the* free
 Aspire to the
 5 Eternal good,
 Which we are speaking about ;
 And to the felicities,
 That we are telling of.
 Let him who is now
 10 Straitly bound
 With *the* vain love
 Of this great
 Middle earth,
 Also quickly seek for himself
 15 Full freedom,
 That he may arrive
 At the felicities,
 For *the* good of souls.
 For that is the only rest
 20 Of all labours,

* Boet. Lib. iii. Met. x. Huc omnes pariter venite capti, &c.

ⁿ MS. an.

hyhtlicu hýð.	<i>The</i> desirable haven
heaum ceolum.	To <i>the</i> lofty ships
moder urres.	Of our mind ;
mepe rnylta pic.	A great tranquil station ;
þæt iſ ríó ana ^w hýð.	25 That is the only haven
þe æſpe bið.	Which ever is,
æfter þam ýpum.	After the waves
upa gerpínca.	Of our labours,
ýſta gehpelcne.	<i>And</i> every storm,
ealníg rnylte.	30 Always calm.
þæt iſ ríó fpuð-ſtop.	That is the refuge,
and ríó fpofoſ ana. ^x	And the 'only comfort
eallpa ýpminga.	Of all <i>the</i> wretched,
æfter þýſſum.	After these
peopulð-gerpíncum.	35 Worldly labours.
þæt iſ pýnſum ſtop.	That is a pleasant place,
æfter þýſſum ýpmpum.	After these miseries,
to aſanne.	To possess.
Ac ic georne pat.	But I well know,
þæt te gýlben maðm.	40 That neither golden vessels,
ſýloſnen ſinc.	<i>Nor</i> heaps of silver,
ſtan-ſeapo gimma nan.	<i>Nor</i> precious stones,
míðbengeandef pela.	<i>Nor the</i> wealth of the middle earth,
moder eagan.	<i>The</i> eyes of <i>the</i> mind
æſpe ne onlýhtað.	45 Ever enlighten,
auht ne gebetað.	<i>Nor</i> aught improve
híopa ſceapneſſe.	Their sharpness,

^w MS. an.^x MS. an.

- to þære riceapunga.
 roðra geræla.
 ac hi riþor get.
 monna gehpelcer.
 moder eagan.
 ablenðað on breortum.
 þonne hi hi beorhtan gedon.
 forþam æghwile þing.
 þe on þis andweardan.
 life licað.
 lænu findon.
 eorðlicu þing.
 a fleondu.
 ac þi is wundorlic.
 plite and beorhtner.
 þe puhta gehwær.
 plite gebephteð.
 and æfter þam.
 eallum paldeð.
 Nele ge paldend.
 þæt forweorðan rice.
 gaula ure.
 ac he hi selfa wile.
 leoman onlihtan.
 lifes paldend.
 Eif þonne hælga hwile.
 hlutan eagan.
 moder riener mæg.
 æfre ofron.
- To the contemplation
 Of true felicities.
 50 But they rather,
The mind's eyes
 Of every man,
 Make blind in *their* breasts,
 Than make them clearer.
 55 For everything
 That in this present
 Life delights,
 Are poor
 Earthly things,
 60 Ever fleeting.
 But wonderful is that
 Splendour and brightness,
 Which every one of things
 With splendour enlightens,
 65 And afterwards,
 Entirely rules.
 The Ruler wills not
 That our souls
 Shall perish ;
 70 But he himself will them
 With a ray illumine,
 The Ruler of life !
 If then any man,
 With *the* clear eyes
 75 Of his mind, may
 Ever behold

hioponeȝ leohtes.	<i>The</i> clear brightness
hlutre beohtto.	Of heaven's light,
þonne ȝile he ȝecȝan.	Then will he say,
þæt þære ȝunnan ȝie.	80 That <i>the</i> brightness of the sun
beohtnes þiohtno.	Is darkness,
beopna ȝehȝylcum.	To every man,
to metanne.	Compared with
ȝið þ̅ micle leoht.	That great light
Loðes ælmihtiges.	85 Of God Almighty,
þæt is ȝarȝa ȝehȝæm.	That is to every soul,
ece butan ende.	Eternal without end,
eadeȝum ȝaulum.	To blessed souls!

METRE XXII.*

Se þe æfter ȝihtes.	WHOSOEVER after truth
mið ȝeȝece.	With skill,
ȝille inȝeapðlice.	Will inwardly
æfter ȝȝȝȝan.	Inquire,
ȝȝa deoplice.	5 So profoundly,
þæt hit todȝȝan ne mæȝ.	That no man may
monna ænig.	Dissipate it;
ne ametȝȝan huȝu.	Nor any earthly thing
ænig eopðlic þincȝ.	At all corrupt <i>it</i> ;

* Boet. Lib. iii. Met. xi. Quisquis profundâ mente vestigat verum, &c.

he æperƿƿ ƿceal.
 ƿecan on him ƿelfum.
 þæt he ƿume hƿile.
 ýmbutan hine.
 æƿop ƿohƿe.
 ƿece þæt ƿiðþan.
 on hiƿ ƿefan innan.
 and ƿoplæte* an.
 ƿƿa he oftoƿt mæge.
 ælcne* ýmbhogan.
 þý him unnet ƿe.
 and geƿammige.
 ƿƿa he ƿƿiþoƿt mæge.
 ealle to þæm anum.
 hiƿ ingeþonc.
 geƿecge hiƿ mod.
 þæt hit mæg ƿindan.
 eall on him innan.
 þæt hit oftoƿt nu.
 ýmbutan hit.
 ealneƿ ƿeceð.
 gooda æghƿýlc.
 he ongit ƿiðþan.
 ýfel ƿ unnet.
 eal þ he hæƿðe.
 on hiƿ incoƿan.

10 He shall first
 Seek in himself,
 That which he some while
 Before sought,
 About him ;
 15 *He* must afterwards seek that
 Within his mind ;
 And forsake,
 As he soonest may,
 Every anxiety,
 20 Which to him is profitless ;
 And resort,
 As he best may,
 Entirely to this alone,
Namely, his mind.
 25 *He* must say to his mind,
 That it may find,
 Entirely in itself,
 That which it oftenest now,
 Around it
 30 Everywhere seeks,—
 Every one of goods.
 He will then find
 Evil and useless,
 All that he had
 35 In his breast,

* ƿoplæte an is probably put for anƿoplæte.

* MS. ælcƿe.

æron lange.	Long before ;
eƿne ƿpa ƿƿeotole.	Even as clearly,
ƿpa he on þa ƿunnan mæȝ.	As he on the sun may
eagum andƿearðum.	With present eyes
onlocian.	40 Look.
and hi eac onȝit.	And he also will perceive
hiȝ inȝeþonc.	His understanding
leohtne ȝ beƿhtne.	Lighter and more bright,
þonne ƿe leoma ƿe.	Than is the beam
ƿunnan on ƿumepa.	45 Of <i>the</i> sun in summer,
þonne ƿƿegleȝ ȝim.	When <i>the</i> gem of the sky,
hadon heoƿon-tungol.	<i>The</i> serene heaven star,
hlutroȝt ƿcineð.	Clearest shines.
ƿonþæm þæȝ lichoman.	For the sins and heaviness,
leahtƿaȝ ȝ heȝignep.	50 And the vices
and þa unþeapȝ.	Of the body,
eallunȝa ne maȝon.	Altogether may not
oȝ mode ation.	From <i>the</i> mind draw
monna ænegum.	In any man,
ƿihtƿignepȝe.	55 Virtue.
Ðeah nu ƿinca hpæm.	Though now in every man,
þæȝ lichoman.	<i>The</i> sins and heaviness,
leahtƿaȝ ȝ heȝignep.	And <i>the</i> vices
and unþeapȝ.	Of the body,
oȝt bȝrigen.	60 Often trouble
monna mod-ƿepan.	<i>The</i> mind of men,
mæȝt and ƿƿiþoȝt.	And most especially
mið þæne ȝƿlan.	With the evil

oƿoƿgiotolneƿre. ^b	Forgetfulness ;
mið Ʒeðpol-miƿte.	65 And with <i>the</i> mist of error
ðneoniƷne ƿeƿan.	Before the mind, alarms
ƿoƿtið moð ƿoƿan.	The dreary intellect
monna Ʒehƿelceƿ.	Of every man,
þæt hiƿ ƿpa beoƿhte ne moƿ.	That it so bright cannot
blican and ^c ƿcinan.	70 Glitter and shine,
ƿpa hiƿ polde Ʒiƿ.	As it would if
hiƿ Ʒeƿealð ahte.	It power possessed.
þeah bið ƿum coƿn.	Yet is some grain
ƿæðeƿ Ʒehealben.	Of <i>the</i> seed of truth
ƿiƿle on þæƿe ƿaule.	75 Always retained
ƿoðƿæƿtneƿre.	In the soul,
þenden Ʒaðeƿtang ƿunað.	While united dwells
Ʒaƿt on lice.	<i>The</i> soul in <i>the</i> body.
þæƿ ƿæðeƿ coƿn.	<i>The</i> grain of this seed
bið ƿiƿle aƿeaht.	80 Is always excited
mið aƿcunƷa.	By inquiry,
eac ƿiðþan.	And moreover,
mið Ʒooðne laƿe.	By good instruction,
Ʒiƿ hiƿ Ʒƿoƿan ƿceal.	If it shall grow.
Ðu mæƷ æniƷ man.	85 How can any man
andƿƿaƿe ƿinðan.	Find <i>an</i> answer
þiƷƷa æniƷeƿ.	To anything,
þeƷen ^d mið Ʒeƿceade.	At least with reason,

^b MS. oƿoƿgiotolneƿre.^c MS. an.^d þeƷen is obscure ; and although I am not satisfied with the translation of this line, I cannot think of a better.

þeah hine ƿınca hƿılċ.
 ƿıhtƿırlıce.

æfter ƿıugne.

ƿıf he aƿuht naƿað.

on hıf mod-ƿeƿan.

mýcley ne lýtley.

ƿıhtƿırneƿeƿeƿe.

ne ƿenadƿıceƿe.

nıf þeah ænıg man.

þæt te ealleƿ ƿƿa.

þeƿ ƿenadƿıceƿe.

ƿƿa beƿeafod ƿıe.

þæt he andƿƿape.

ænıge ne cunne.

ƿından on ƿeƿhðe.

ƿıf he ƿıugnen bıð.

ƿoƿþæm hıt ıf ƿıht ƿpell. 105 Therefore it is a true saying,

þæt ıf ƿeahte ƿıo.

ealð uðƿıta.

ıƿe Platon.

he cƿað þæt te æghƿılċ.

unƿemýndıg.

ƿıhtƿırneƿe.

hıne hƿæðe ƿceolde.

eft ƿependan.

ınto ƿınum.

moder ƿemýnde.

he mæg ƿıðþan.

on hıf ƿun-coƿan.

Though after it

90 Any man should

Wisely inquire,

If he has not

Aught in his mind,

Much or little

95 Of wisdom,

Or prudence?

But there is no man

That altogether is

Of prudence

100 So bereaved,

That he any answer

Cannot find

In *his* mind,

If he be questioned.

105 Therefore it is a true saying,

Which formerly our Plato,

The ancient philosopher

Said to us;

He said that every one

110 Unmindful

Of wisdom,

Should immediately

Turn himself

To his own

115 Memory :

He may then,

In his breast

nihtrigneſſe.	Wisdom
ſindan on ſephhte.	Find in <i>his</i> mind,
ſæſte gehyððe.	Closely concealed
mið gedraſneſſe.	By the trouble
ðoðoſa gehwylce.	Of his mind,
moðeſ ſineſ.	Every day,
mæſt 7 ſwiðoſt.	Most especially ;
and mið heſneſſe.	125 And by <i>the</i> heaviness
hiſ lichoman.	Of his body ;
and mið þæm biſgum.	And by the cares,
þe on breoſtum ſtýneð.	Which in <i>the</i> breast agitate
mon on moðe.	Men's minds
mæla gehwylce.	130 Every moment.

METRE XXIII.*

Siç þ la on eoþan.	Lo ! now on earth is he
ælceſ þingeſ.	In every thing
geſæliz mon.	A happy man,
giſ he geſion mæge.	If he may see
þone hlutneſtan.	5 The clearest
heoſon-toſhtan ſtneam.	Heaven shining stream,
æþelne æpelm.	<i>The</i> noble fountain
ælceſ goodeſ.	Of all good !

* Boet. Lib. iii. Met. xii. Felix qui potuit boni, &c.

and of him ſelfum.

þone ſƿeapƿan miſt.

moder þioſtƿo.

mæg aƿeoppan.

þe ſculon þeah gita.

mið Godeſ fýlſte.

ealðum 7 leaſum.

þinne ingeþonc.

betan biſpellum.

þæt þu þe bet mæge.

aƿedian to ƿoðorum.

rihte ſtize.

on þone ecan eaƿð.

urra ſaula.

And of himſelf

10 The ſwarthy miſt,

The darkness of *the* mind

Can diſpel!

We will as yet,

With God's help,

15 With old and fabulous

Stories inſtruct

Thy mind;

That thou the better mayſt

Discover to *the* ſkies

20 The right path;

To the eternal region

Of our ſouls.

METRE XXIV.¹

Ic hæbbe fliðu.

fugle fliſtƿan.

mið þæm ic fleogan mæg.

feor fƿam eorþan.

ofer heane hƿof.

heofoner þiſſes.

ac þær ic nu moſte.

I HAVE wings

Swifter than a bird,

With which I can fly

Far from earth,

5 Over the lofty roof

Of this heaven.

But I muſt now,

¹ Boet. Lib. IV. Met. I. Sunt etenim pennæ volucres mihi, &c.

mod ȝereðþan.
 þinne ȝeþð-locan.
 ȝeðnum minum.
 oðþæt þu meahhte.
 þȝne middan ȝearð.
 ælc eorðlic þing.
 eallunga ȝorȝion.
 Meahter ȝeþ ȝodoþum.
 ȝeþeclice.
 ȝeðeþum lacan.
 ȝeop up ȝeþ.
 ȝolcnu ȝindan.
 ȝlitcan ȝiðþan uþan.
 ȝeþ ealle.
 Meahter eac ȝapan.
 ȝeþ þæm ȝȝne.
 þe ȝela ȝeara ȝor.
 lange betpeox.
 lȝfte ȝ ȝodeþe.
 ȝpa him æt ȝȝmðe.
 ȝædeþ ȝetioðe.
 Ðu meahter þe ȝiðþan.
 mid þæpe ȝunnan.
 ȝapan betpeox.
 oþnum tunȝlum.
 Meahter þe ȝull ȝecen.
 on þæm ȝodeþe uþan.
 ȝiðþan ȝeopþan.
 and þonne ȝamtenger.

O mind, give wings to
 Thy bosom,
 10 With my feathers,
 That thou mayest
 This middle earth,
And every earthly thing,
 Altogether look down upon.
 15 Thou mayest above the skies
 Extensively
 With thy wings sport;
 Far up above
 The clouds wander,
 20 *And* afterwards from above
 Look down over all.
 Thou mayest also go
 Above the fire,
 Which many years has gone
 25 Long betwixt
The air and sky;
 As to it at *the* beginning,
The Father appointed.
 Thou mayest afterwards,
 30 With the sun,
 Go betwixt
 The other stars.
 Thou mayest full quickly,
 In the sky above,
 35 Afterwards advance;
 And then immediately

æt þæm æl-cealdan.

anum ſteoppan.

ſe ȝrmeſt iſ.

eallra tungla.

þone ſaturnuſ.

runð-buende hatað.

under heoƿonum.

he iſ ſe cealða.

eall iſiȝ tungel.

ȝrmeſt paðnað.

oƿer eallum uƿan.

oþrum ſteoprum.

ſiðþan þu þonne.

þone upahaƿaſt.

ƿoſð oƿer-ƿarenne.

þu meaht ƿeoſſian.

þonne biſt þu ſiðþan.

rona oƿer uppan.

roðeſe nȝne ſƿiſtum.

ȝiſ þu niht ƿæpeſt.

þu⁶ þone hehȝtan heoƿon.

behindan lætȝt.

Ðonne meaht þu ſiðþa.

roþeſ leohteſ.

habban þinne dæl.

þonan an cȝning.

nume nȝcrað.

To that all cold,

Solitary star,

Which highest is

40 Of all *the* stars ;

Him Saturn

Sailors call

Under *the* heavens.

He is the cold

45 All icy star,

And highest wanders,

Above all

Other stars.

After thou then

50 Hast advanced,

To pass by him,

Thou mayest go far.

Then thou wilt afterwards be

Soon above

55 *The* sky in its swift course.

If thou rightly goest,

The highest heaven

Thou shalt leave behind.

Then mayest thou afterwards

60 Have thy portion

Of *the* true light.

From whence one king

Widely reigns,

ofer nodepnum up.
 and under swa same.
 eallra gecrefta.
 weorolde wealdend.
 Ðæt is his cyning.
 þæt is he wealdend.
 giond weorolde.
 ealra oþra.
 eorþan cýninga.
 he mid his bridle.
 ymbe bæted hæfð.
 ymbhwýrft ealne.
 eorþan ⁊ heofenes.
 He his geseald-leþen.
 wel gemetgað.
 he stoweð á.
 þurh þa stromgan meahht. 80
 þam hweorðene.
 heofenes and eorþan.
 he an dæma is.
 geseaðþig.
 unapendendlic.
 plitig ⁊ mæge.
 Eif þu wýrft on.
 wege rihtum.
 up to þam eorðe.
 þæt is æþele stow.
 þeah þu hi nu gesea.
 forgyten hæbbe.

Up above *the* skies ;
 65 And also under *them*,
 All worldly
 Creatures governs.
 This is *the* wise king,
 This is he who rules,
 70 Throughout nations,
 All other
 Earthly kings.
 He with his bridle,
 Has encompassed
 75 *The* whole orb
 Of earth and heaven.
 He his reins
 Well regulates,
 Who ever guides,
 By his strong power,
 The chariot
 Of heaven and earth.
 He is the only judge,
 Stedfast,
 85 Unchangeable,
 Splendid and great.
 If thou returnest along
The right way,
 Up to that region,
 90 It is thy native place,
 Though thou at present
 Hast forgotten it.

gif þu æfre.	If thou ever
eft þær an cýmert.	Again there comest,
þonne wilt þu secgan.	95 Then wilt thou say,
and þona cpeþan.	And soon declare,
þis is eallunga.	"This is altogether
min aȝen cýð.	"My own country,
eaƿð and eþel.	"Residence, and native soil.
ic ƿæf ær hionan.	100 "I formerly hence
cumen ȝ acenned.	"Came and was born,
þurh þýſſes cƿærtȝan meaht.	"Through the Creator's power.
nýlle ic æfre hionan.	"Never will I hence
ut ƿitan.	"Depart:
ac ic ȝýmle heƿ.	105 "But I ever here,
ȝofte ƿille.	"Will gladly,
mið fæder ƿillan.	"With <i>the</i> Father's will,
færte ȝtonðan.	"Firmly stand."
Liſ þe þonne æfre.	If it then ever
eft ȝeƿeopfeð.	110 Again should happen,
þæt þu wilt oððe moƿt.	That thou wilt or must,
ƿeopolde þioſtƿo.	<i>The</i> world's darkness,
eft fandian.	Again explore,
þu meaht eaðe ȝeſon.	Thou mayest easily see
unȝihtſýre.	115 <i>The</i> unrighteous
eopþan cýningas.	Earthly kings,
and þa oſepmodan.	And the other
oþre ȝican.	Arrogant rich,
þe þis ƿeſuge folc.	Who this abject people
ƿýſſt tuciað.	120 Worst torment;
þæt he ȝýmle bioð.	That they always are

ƿriðe earne.	Very poor,
unmehtige.	Impotent
ælcer þinger.	In every thing ;
emne þa ilcan.	125 Even the same,
þe þis earne folc.	That this wretched people,
sume hpile nu.	Somewhile now,
ƿriþort ondrædeð.	Most dreads.

METRE XXV.^a

Gehep nu an ƿpell.	HEAR now a discourse
be þam ofermodum.	Concerning the proud
unrihtƿiſum.	Unrighteous
eoþan cýningum.	Kings of the earth ;
þa hep nu manegum.	5 Who here now with many
and myrlicum.	And various
ƿædum plite-beophtum.	Splendid garments
ƿundrum ſcínað.	Wonderfully shine ;
on heah-ſetlum.	On thrones,
hrofe getenge.	10 With canopies reclining :
golde zegeſede.	Clothed with gold,
and gimcýnnum.	And jewels ;
utan ýmbe ſtandne.	Surrounded
mið unſime.	With an innumerable <i>crowd</i>

^a Boet. Lib. iv. Met. ii. Quos vides sedere celso, &c.

- þegna ⁊ eopla.
 þa bioð gehyrpte.
 mid hepe-geatpum.
 hilde tophatum.
 rpeorðum ⁊ fetelum.
 rpiðe zeglende.
 and þegnað.
 þrymme mycle.
 ælc oþrum.
 and hi ealle him.
 þonan mid þy þrymme.
 þneatiað gehwider.
 ymb-ryttenda.
 oþra þeoda.
 and se hlaforð ne rcrifð.
 þe þæm hepe paldeð.
 rneonde ne feonde.
 feore ne æhtum.
 ac he reþig-moð.
 nært on gehwile.
 neðe hunde.
 puhta gelicort.
 Bið to upahæfen.
 inne on mode.
 for þæm anpalde.
 þe him anra gehwile.
 his tyw-pina.
 to fultemað.
 Líf mon þonne polde.
- 15 Of thanes and earls,
 Who are adorned
 With weapons,
 Illustrious in battle;
 With swords and belts
 20 Greatly distinguished;
 And each one
 With much magnificence
 Serves another;
 And they all *serve* him.
 25 From thence with their magnificence
 They everywhere strike terror,
 Into other
 Surrounding nations;
 And the Lord regards not,
 30 Who rules that crowd,
 Friend or foe,
 Life or goods;
 But he fierce in mind,
 Rushes on every one,
 35 Most like of *all* things
 To a fierce dog.
 He is too much raised
 In his mind,
 Through the power,
 40 Which for him each one
 Of his beloved chiefs
 Supports.
 If then any one would

him aþindan of.
 þær cýne-geþelum.
 claþa gehwílcne.
 and him þonne ofþion.
 þara þegnunga.
 and þær anpaldeþ.
 þe he her hæfde.
 þonne meaht þu geþion.
 þæt he bið ſwiðe gelic.
 ſumum þara gúmena.
 þe him geornorſt nu.
 mid þegnungum.
 þringað ýmbe utan.
 gif hi wýrðra ne bið.
 ne pene ic hiſ na beteran.
 Gif him þonne æfre.
 unmenðlinga.
 pear geberede.
 þæt him wunðe oftozen.
 þrýmmeſ 7 wæda.
 and þegnunga.
 and þær anpaldeþ.
 þe we ýmbe ſpnecað.
 gif him ænig þara.
 ofhende wýrð.
 ic pat þæt him þinceð.
 þæt he þonne ſe.
 becnopen on cancern.
 oððe coðlice.

From him ſtrip off
 45 Theſe kingly robes,—
 Each of his garments,—
 And from him then take away
 That retinue,
 And that power,
 50 Which he here had;
 Then mighteſt thou ſee
 That he is very like
 Any of thoſe men,
 Who now moſt anxiouſly
 55 With ſervices
 Crowd about him.
 If he is no worſe,
 I think he is no better.
 If then ever to him,
 60 Unexpectedly,
 It by chance happened,
 That from him were taken
 His ſplendour and clothes,
 And retinue,
 65 And the power
 That we are ſpeaking of;
 If from him any of theſe
 Were taken away,
 I wot that it would ſeem to him
 70 That he were then
 Crept into priſon,
 Or ſurely

nacentan ȝeŋæpeð.	Bound with chains.
Ic ȝepeccan mæg.	I can shew,
þæt of unȝemete.	75 That from excess
ælcەر þiŋeŋ.	Of every thing,
ŋiŋte ȝ pæða.	Of food and clothes,
ŋin-ȝeðŋinceŋ.	Of wine-drink,
and of ȝpet-metann.	And of sweet meats,
ȝŋiþoŋt peaxað.	80 Chiefly grows
þæŋe ȝŋænneŋŋe.	The great fury
poð-þŋaȝ miçel.	Of lust,
ȝio ȝŋiðe ȝeðŋæŋð.	Which much troubles
ȝeŋan inȝehȝȝð.	<i>The</i> thoughts of <i>the</i> mind
monna ȝehpelçeŋ.	85 Of every man :
þonan mæŋt cȝmeð.	Whence chiefly comes
ȝŋla oŋeŋmeta.	Evil arrogance,
unnetta ȝaca.	And unprofitable strifes.
Ðonne hi ȝebolȝene peoŋþað.	When they become enraged
hiŋ ȝŋŋð on hŋeoŋtum inne.	Within their breasts
beŋpunȝen ȝeŋa on hŋeþŋe. ¹	Their inward mind is scourged
mið þæm ȝŋiþan pelme.	With the violent burning
hat-heoŋtneŋŋe.	Of fury ;
and hŋeðe ȝiðþan.	And afterwards,
unpoŋtneŋŋe.	95 Cruel sorrow
eac ȝeŋeæpeð.	Also binds <i>them</i> ,
heapde ȝehæŋteð.	Fast enslaved.
Ðiŋ ȝiðþan onȝiŋð.	To them afterwards

¹ MS. hŋaþŋe. Lye acknowledges this word ; but as he has no authority for its use besides what he finds here, I am inclined to consider it as an error, and have corrected it accordingly.

sum tohopa.
 ƿriðe leogan.
 þær Ʒepinner ƿnæce.
 ƿilnað ꝥ 1ƿne.
 aner and oþner.
 him ꝥ eall Ʒehæt.
 hiƿ neceleƷt.
 nihter ne ƷcƿiƷeð.
 Ic þe Ʒæde ær.
 on þiſſe Ʒelfan bec.
 þæt ſumer Ʒooder.
 Ʒiðra ƷerƷeafta.
 anleƿna ælc.
 á ƿilnode.
 Ʒor hiƿ aƷenum.
 ealb-Ʒecýnde.
 unnihtƿiƷe.
 eoƷþan cýningaƷ.
 ne maƷon ærre þurhtion.
 aƿuht Ʒooder.
 Ʒor þæm ýrle.
 þe ic þe ær Ʒæde.
 NiƷ ꝥ nan ƿunðor.
 Ʒorþæm hi ƿillað hi.
 þæm unþearum.
 þe ic þe ær nemde.
 anra Ʒehƿelcum.
 á underþeodan.
 Sceal þonne nebe.

Some hope begins
 100 Greatly to lie.
 Revenge of battle
 Anger desires
 Of one or other.
 His security promises
 105 All that to him,
But cares not for right.
 I told thee before
 In this same book,
 That every one
 110 Of various creatures,
 Ever desired
 Some good,
 Through his own
 Original nature.
 115 *But* unrighteous
 Earthly kings
 May never accomplish
 Aught of good,
 On account of the evil,
 120 Which I before mentioned to thee.
 That is no wonder,
 For they are willing,
 To the vices,
 Which I before named to thee,
 125 To each one,
 Ever to submit.
He shall then necessarily

neapre gebugan.	Strictly bend
to þara hlaforða.	To the captivity
hærte dome.	130 Of those lords,
þe he hine eallunga.	That he himself entirely
ær underþiōðde.	Before submitted to.
þæt is þýpre get.	This is still worse,
þæt he pinnan nýle.	That he will not strive
rið þæm anpalde.	135 Against that power,
ænige ſtunde.	At any time.
þær he polde á.	If he ever would
pinnan onginnan.	Begin to strive,
and þonne on þæm gepinne.	And then in the contest,
þurhpunian forð.	140 Afterwards persist,
þonne nærde he.	Then would he have
nane ſcýlde.	No guilt;
þeah he oþerpunnen.	Though he should be
peorþan ſceolde.	Overcome.

METRE XXVI.*

Ic þe mæg eaðe.	I CAN easily to thee,
ealþum ⁊ leaſum.	From old and fabulous
ſpellum andþeccan.	Stories relate
ſpæræce gelicne.	A tale similar to

* Boet. Lib. iv. Met. iii. Vela Neritii ducis, &c.

efne þisse ilcan.
 þe wit ȝmȝpnecað.
 Hit ȝeſælde ȝio.
 on ſume tide.
 þæt Aulixeſ.
 under-hæfde.
 þæm Carene.¹
 cȳne-riču tpa.
 He wæs Ðnacra.^m
 þioða alþor.
 and Retie.
 ričeſ hiſde.
 Wæs hiſ fpea-ðrihtneſ.
 folc-cuð nama.
 Agamemnon.
 re ealleſ peolþ.
 Eneca ričeſ.
 Cuð wæs wiðe.
 þæt on þa tide.
 Troiana ȝepin.
 pearð under polcnum.
 for ričeſ-hearð.
 Eneca ðrihten.
 camp-ſted ſecan.

5 Even this same,
 That we are speaking of.
 It happened formerly,
 At a certain time,
 That Ulysses
 10 Had under
 The emperor
 Two kingdoms.
 He was of *the* Thracian
 Provinces chief;
 15 And of *the* kingdom
 Of Retia ruler.
 His supreme Lord's
 Celebrated name
 Was Agamemnon;
 20 Who governed all
The kingdom of *the* Greeks.
 It was widely known,
 That at that time
The Trojan war
 25 Happened under *the* clouds.
 Forth went *the* leader of war,
The lord of *the* Greeks,
 To seek *the* place of battle.

¹ An indefinite title of honour.

^m Ulysses was King of Ithaca, and had no dominions in Thrace: probably Alfred was led into this error by some bardic history of the murder of Rhesus, and the defeat of the Thracians by Ulysses. See Note 147 in Cardale's edition of the Prose of Boethius.

Aulixer mid.	Ulysses with him
an hund rcipa.	30 A hundred of ships
lædde ofer lagu-rcneam.	Led over the ocean,
ƿæt longe ƿær.	And sat long there,—
ƿyn ƿinter full.	Ten winters full.
Ða ⁿ ƿio tid gelomp,	When the time came,
ƿæt hi ƿ rice.	35 That they that kingdom
ƿeræht hæƿdon.	Had subdued,
diope zecepte.	Dearly won
ðrihten Eneca.	The lord of <i>the</i> Greeks,
Troia buh.	The city of Troy,
tilum ƿerfþum.	40 With <i>his</i> brave companions;
þa þa ^o Aulixer.	Then when Ulysses
leafe hæfde.	Had permission,
Ðnacia ^p cýning.	(King of Thracia,)
ƿæt he þonan moƿte.	That he thence might <i>depart</i> ,
he let him behindan.	45 He left behind him,
hýrnde ciolar.	Beaked ships,
nigon 7 hund nigontig.	Ninety and nine.
nænige ^a þonan.	From thence none
mepe-hengerta.	Of <i>the</i> sea horses
ma þonne ænne.	50 More than one,
ƿereþe on ƿifel ^r rcneam.	Went by the Fifel stream,
ƿamig-borþon.	With foamy banks;

ⁿ MS. Ðe.^o MS. þu.^p See a preceding note.^a MS. nænigne.^r The real meaning of ƿifel is obscure. See Note 192, in Cardale's Prose Boethius.

þrieþre ceol.
 þæt bið þ mæste.
 Eneicra rca.
 þa pearð cealð peðen.
 rcarc-rorua zelac.
 rtunede rto bpune.
 yð rið oþre.
 ut reop adraþ.
 on penðel-ræ.
 rigendra rcola.
 up on þ izland.
 þær Apolliner.
 dohton punode.
 bæz-rimer poru.
 pær re Apollinur.
 æpeleþ cýnner.
 Iober earora.
 re pær rto cýning.
 re licette.
 litlum 7 miclum.
 gumena gehpýlcum.
 þæt he God* pære.
 hehrt 7 halgort.
 Sþa re hlaforð þa.
 þæt dýrge folc.
 on gedpolan lædde.
 oðþæt him gelyrðe.

A vessel with three rows of oars ;
 Which is the greatest
 55 Of Grecian ships.
 Then was cold weather,
 A number of stark storms :
 The dusky wave
 Beat on another,
 60 *And* drove out far
 In *the* Wendel sea,
The band of warriors,
 Upon the island,
 Where Apollo's
 65 Daughter dwelt,
 A number of days.
 This Apollo was
 Of noble race,
The son of Jove,
 70 Who was formerly king ;
 He pretended
 To little and great,
 To every man,
 That he was God,
 75 *The* highest and holiest.
 So did this lord then,
 That foolish people
 Lead into error,
 Until believed in him

- leoda unŕum. 80 A multitude of people ;
 ƿorþæm he ƿær mið rihte. Because he was rightfully
 riƿeŕ hiŕde. *The ruler of that kingdom,*
 hiopa cýne-cýnner. *And of their kingly race.*
 Luð iŕ riðe. It is widely known,
 þæt on þa tiðe. 85 That at that time,
 þeoda æghƿilc hæƿdon. Every nation held
 heopa hlaƿorð. Their lord
 ƿor þone hehŕtan Gōð. For the most high God ;
 and ƿeorþodon. And worshipped *him*,
 ƿƿa ƿƿa ƿulðneŕ cýning. 90 Even as the king of glory ;
 giŕ he to þæm riƿe ƿær. If he to that kingdom was
 on rihte boren. Rightly born.
 ƿær þær Iobeŕ fæðeŕ. This Jove's father was
 Gōð eac ƿƿa he. A God also as he was.
 85 Him Saturn
 ƿund-buende. The sea dwellers
 heton hæleþa beapn. Call, *even* the children of men :
 hæƿdon þa mægþa. They esteemed these kinsmen,
 ælcne æfteŕ oþrum. One after another,
 100 As the eternal God.
 ƿor ecne Gōð. *Then* also should
 ƿeolde eac ƿeŕan. Apollo's daughter,
 Apollineŕ. Nobly born,
 dohton diop-boren. Be of the foolish people,
 ðýŕiŕeŕ ƿolceŕ. 105 A Goddess ;
 gum-ŕinca gýðen. Known through many sorceries
 cuðe galðŕa ƿela. To exercise magic arts.
 ðŕiŕan ðŕýcnæftaŕ. She error followed
 hio geðƿolan ƿýlgðe.

manna ꝥꝥþoꝛt.
 manegra þioða.
 Eýningeꝛ dohtop.
 ꝥio Eince ꝥæꝛ.
 haten ꝥop heꝛigum.
 Ðio ꝥicꝥode.
 on þæm iglonde.
 þe Aulixeꝛ.
 cýning Ðꝥacia.
 com ane to.
 ceole liþan.
 Luð ꝥæꝛ ꝥona.
 eallpe þæne mænige.
 þe hiꝛe mið punode.
 æþelingeꝛ ꝥið.
 Ðio mið ungemetete.
 liꝛꝥum luꝥode.
 lið-monna ꝥꝥea.
 and he eac ꝥꝥa ꝥame.
 ealle mægne.
 eꝥne ꝥꝥa ꝥꝥiðe.
 hi on ꝥeꝥan luꝥode.
 þæt he to hiꝛ eapde.
 ænige nýꝥte.
 modeꝛ mýnlan.
 ofeꝛ mægð giunge.
 ac he mið þæm ꝥꝥe.
 punode ꝥiðþan.
 oðþæt him ne meahte.

Most of people,
 110 Of many nations.
 The king's daughter
 Was Circe
 Called for her oppressions.
 She reigned
 115 In the island,
 Which Ulysses
 King of Thracia,
 Happened to sail to
 With one ship.
 120 Soon was known
 To all the multitude
 That with her dwelt,
The arrival of *the* prince.
 She with unbounded
 125 Favour loved
The lord of the sailors;
 And he in like manner,
 With all his power,
 Even as greatly,
 130 Loved her in his mind;
 So that he towards his country
 Knew not any
 Inclination of mind,
 Above *the* young maid;
 135 But he with that wife
 Dwelt afterwards;
 Until with him would not

monna ænig.	Any man
þegna ^t ġinra.	Of his thanes
þær mid þeran.	140 There remain ;
ac hi for þæm ġrmþum.	But they through the misery
earðer lȳrte.	Of desire for their country,
mȳnton forlætæn.	Determined to leave
leoſne hlaforð.	<i>Their</i> beloved lord.
Ða ongunnon þercan.	145 Then men began
per-þeoda ſpell.	To work spells ;
ſædon ꝥ hio ſceolde.	They said that she should,
mid hīe ſcīnlace.	By her sorcery,
beorpaſ forþbredan.	Lay <i>the</i> men prostrate ;
and mid balo-cſærtum.	150 And with wicked arts
ſpaþum peorpan.	Quickly cast,
on pildra lic.	Into <i>the</i> bodies of wild beasts
cȳningeſ þegnaſ.	<i>The</i> king's thanes ;
cȳrpan ġiðþan.	<i>And</i> afterwards fetter,
and mid ſacentan eac.	155 And with chains also,
ſæpan mænigne.	Bind many a one.
Sume hi to pulſum purdon.	Some became wolves,
ne meahton þonne forð forð-	<i>And</i> could not then utter a
þringan.	word ;
ac hio þrag-mælum.	But they at intervals
þioton ongunnon.	160 Began to howl.
Sume þæron eaforaſ.	Some were wild boars,
ā ġnȳmetedon.	<i>And</i> always grunted,
þonne hi ſapeſ hpæt.	When they any grief

^t MS. þegna.

ƿioƿian ƿcioldon.
 Ða þe leon ƿæron.
 ongunnon laðlice.
 ƿƿrengea ƿýnan.^u
 þonne hi ƿceoldon.
 clƿian ƿor conþƿe.
 Enihtaƿ ƿurdon.
 ealde ge giunge.
 ealle ƿorhpærþe.
 to ƿumum dione.
 ƿpelcum he æron.
 on hiƿ hiƿ-ðagum.
 gelicoƿt ƿær.
 butan þam cýninge.
 þe ƿio cƿen luƿode.
 Nolde þana oþra.
 ænig onbitan.
 menniƿceƿ meter.
 ac hi ma luƿedon.
 diona dnohtað.
 ƿƿa hit geðeƿe ne ƿær.
 Næƿdon hi mare.
 monnum geliceƿ.
 eoƿð-buendum.
 þonne ingeþonc.
 Ðæƿde ana gehƿýlc.

Should bemoan.
 165 Those that were lions
 Horribly began
 To roar fiercely,
 When they should
 Call for *their* companions.
 170 *The* men were,
 Old and young,
 All transformed
 To some beast,
 Such as each before,
 175 In *the* days of his life,
 Was most resembling;
 Except the king,
 Whom the queen loved.
 Of the others,
 180 None would taste
The food of men;
 But they more loved
The society of beasts,
 As it was not fit.
 185 They had no more
 Of likeness to men,
 Inhabitants of earth,
 Than *the* mind.
 Each one had

^u MS. ƿýna. The context evidently requires an infinitive mood.

hīr aȝen mōð.	190	His own mind ;
þæt pær þeah ȝrīðe.		But that was greatly
ȝorȝum ȝebunden.		Bound with sorrows,
ƿor þæm earƿoþum.		On account of the troubles
þe him onȝæton.		Which him beset.
Ðræt þa ðȝreȝan men.	195	But the foolish men,
þe þȝrum ðrȝcƿæftum.		Who in these enchantments
long lȝfðon.		Long believed
learum ȝpellum.		Through false tales,
ƿȝrron hƿæþne.		Knew nevertheless,
þæt ƿ ȝeƿit ne mæȝ.	200	That no man could
mōð onpendan.		Change the intellect,—
monna ænȝ.		<i>The</i> mind
mīð ðrȝcƿæftum.		By sorceries :
þeah hīo ȝeðon meahte.		Though they may cause
þæt þa lichoman.	205	That the bodies
lange þȝaȝe.		A long while
onpend ƿurðon.		Should be changed.
Iȝ ƿ ƿundorlic.		Wonderful is that
mæȝen cƿæft micel.		Great sovereign power,
mōða ȝehƿilceȝ.	210	Of every mind
oƿer lichoman.		Above the body
lænne ȝ ȝænne.		Frail and sluggish !
ðȝȝlcum ȝ ȝȝȝlcum.		By these and such like things,
þu meaht ȝƿeotole onȝitan.		Thou mayest clearly perceive,
þæt þær lichoman.	215	That of the body
hȝtaȝ ȝ cƿæftaȝ.		<i>The</i> powers and faculties,
oƿ þæm mōðe cūmað.		From the mind come

monna gehwylcum.	To every man,
ænleppa ælc.	Each separately.
Du meahƿ eaðe onƿitan,	220 Thou mayest easily perceive
þæt te ma ðeƿeð.	That <i>the</i> mind's vice
monna gehwylcum.	Is more injurious
modeƿ unþeap.	To every man,
þonne mettrýmner.	Than the infirmity
læneƿ lichoman.	225 Of the frail body.
Ne þeapƿ leoda nan.	Nor needs any man
penan þære ƿýrðe.	Expect that event,
þæt ƿ þe ƿeƿize flærc.	That the vile flesh
þæt mod.*	The mind
monna ænizeƿ.	230 Of any man,
eallunga to him.	Altogether to it
æƿe mæg onƿendan.	Should ever turn ;
ac þa unþeapƿ.	But the vices
ælceƿ modeƿ.	Of every mind,
and ƿ inƿeþonc.	235 And the thought
ælceƿ monner.	Of every man,
þone lichoman liƿ.	Leads the body
þiðeƿ hiƿ ƿile.	Whither it will.

* This line is defective.

METRE XXVII.*

Ðrȳ ge æfre ȳcȳlen.
 unriht-ƿiounȳum.
 eoƿer mod ðneƿan.
 ȳpa ȳpa meƿe ƿloðer.
 ȳpa hneƿað.
 iƿ-calde ȳæ.
 ƿecȳȳað ƿon ƿinde.
 Ðrȳ oðƿite ge.
 ƿȳnde eoƿne.
 þæt hio zeƿealb naƿað.
 Ðrȳ ge þær deaþer.
 þe eoƿ Ðrihten ȳerceoƿ.
 ȳebidan ne maȳon.
 biȳneȳ ȳecȳnder.
 nu he eoƿ ælce ðæȳ.
 onet toƿearð.
 Ne maȳon ge ȳerion.
 þæt he ȳȳmle ȳȳȳneð.
 æfter æȳhƿelcum.
 eoƿþan tuðne.
 ðioȳum ȳ ƿuȳlum.
 ðeað eac ȳpa ȳame.

WHY will ye ever
 With unjust hatred
 Your mind trouble,
 As the ocean's
 5 Waves lift up
 The ice-cold sea,
 And agitate *it* through the wind?
 Why upbraid ye
 Your fortune,
 10 That she no power possesses?
 Why cannot ye now wait
 For the bitter state
 Of that death,
 Which for you *the* Lord ordained;
 15 Now he each day
 Hastens towards you?
 Cannot ye see
 That he is always seeking
 After every
 20 Earthly offspring,
 Beasts and birds?
 Death also in like manner

* Boet. Lib. iv. Met. iv. Quid tantos juvat excitare motus, &c.

æfter mon-cýnne.	After mankind <i>seeks</i> ,
geond þýrne middan ȝearð.	Throughout this middle earth,
eȝerlic hunta.	25 Terrific hunter !
abit on pæðe.	<i>And</i> devours in pursuit.
nýle he æmiz ȝpæð.	He will not any track
æfre forlætan.	Ever forsake,
ær he ȝehede.	Until he has seized
þæt he hpile ær.	30 That which he before
æfter ȝpýneðe.	Sought after.
Iȝ þ̅ earmlíc þing.	It is a wretched thing,
þæt hȝ ȝebíðan ne maȝon.	That citizens
buȝz-ȝittende.	Cannot wait for him ;
ungeſælige men.	85 Unhappy men
hine ær pillað.	Are rather desirous
foran toſciotan.	To anticipate him.
ȝpa ȝpa fuȝla cȝn.	As birds,
oððe pilðu ðior.	Or wild beasts,
þa pinnað betpuh.	40 When they contend,
æȝhpýlc polde.	Each one would
oþer acpellan.	<i>The</i> other destroy.
Ac þæt iȝ unȝiht.	But it is wicked,
æȝhpelcum men.	In every man,
þæt he oþerne.	45 That he another,
inrit-þoncum.	With his thoughts,
ſioȝe on færdæ.	Should hate in his breast,
ȝpa ȝpa fuȝl oððe ðior.	Like a bird or beast.
Ac þæt pære ȝihtoȝt.	But it would be most right,
þæt te pinca ȝehpýlc.	50 That every man
oþrum ȝulde.	Should render to other

eðlean on niht.	Dwellers in the world,
peopc be ȝeƿeophƿtum.	Reward proportionable
peopulð-buendum.	To his deserts,
þinga ȝehƿilceȝ.	55 In every thing :
þæt iȝ ꝥ he luƿiȝe.	That is, that he should love
ȝoðna ȝehƿilcne.	Every one of the good,
ȝƿa he ȝeopnoȝt mæȝe.	As he best may ;
miðȝiȝe ȝƿlum.	<i>And</i> have mercy on <i>the</i> wicked.
ȝƿa ƿe [æȝ]ʹ ȝƿnæcon.	60 As we [before] said.
Ðe ȝceal þone monnan.	He should the man
mode luƿian.	With his mind love,
and hiȝ unþeapȝ.	And his vices
ealle hatian.	All hate,
and ofȝniþan.	65 And destroy,
ȝƿa he ȝƿiþoȝt mæȝe.	As he soonest may.

METRE XXVIII.*

Ðƿa iȝ on eoþan nu.	Who is now on earth
unlæȝða.	Of <i>the</i> unlearned,
þe ne ƿunðȝiȝe.	That does not wonder at
ƿolcna ƿæƿelðeȝ.	<i>The</i> motion of <i>the</i> clouds,
ƿoðneȝ ȝƿiȝto.	5 <i>The</i> swiftneſs of <i>the</i> ſky,

* The alliteration required this insertion, which is sanctioned by the prose text.

* Boet. Lib. iv. Met. v. Si quis arcturi sidera nescit, &c.

pýne tunglo.	<i>And the course of the stars ;</i>
hu hý ælce dæge.	How they each day
utan ýmbhpepfeð.	Revolve about
eallne middan gearð.	All <i>the</i> middle earth ?
Ðpa 1r mon-cýnner.	10 Who is there of mankind,
þæt ne pundpue ýmb.	That does not wonder about
þar plitegan tungl.	These splendid stars ;
hu hý rume habbað.	How some of them have
rpíðe micle.	Very much
rcýrtan ýmbehpeapft.	15 Shorter circuits ;
rume rcupað leng.	<i>And</i> some wander far
utan ýmb eall þ1r.	Beyond all this ?
an þapa tungla.*	One of those stars
populð-men hatað.	Worldly men call
pæner þ1rla. ^b	20 The waggon's shafts.
þa habbað rcýrtan.	These have a shorter
rcupíðe and ræpelð.	Revolution and course,
ýmbhepft lærran.	A less circuit
þonne oþru tungl.	Than other stars ;
forþæm h1 þæpe eaxe.	25 Because they turn
utan ýmbhpepfeð.	About the axis,
þone norð-ende.	<i>And</i> near the north pole
nean ýmbcepfeð.	Revolve.
on þæpe ilcan.	On the same
eaxe hpepfeð.	30 Axis turns

* tungel literally signifies a star or planet ; but it may also be used to denote a constellation. I have translated it star ; and the same latitude may be given to that as is given to tungel.

^b Called also Ursa major.

eall þuma ƿoðop.
 ƿecene ƿcƿiþeð.
 ƿuð-heald ƿƿiþeð.
 ƿƿiþt untioƿuƿ.
 Ðƿa iƿ on ƿopulðe.
 þæt ne ƿaƿiƿe.
 buton þa ane.
 þe hit æƿ ƿiƿƿon.
 þæt mænig tunƿul.
 maƿan ýmbhƿýƿt.
 haƿað on heoponum.
 ƿume hƿile eft.
 læƿƿe ƿeliþað.
 þa þe lacað ýmb eaƿe ende.
 oððe micle maƿe.
 ƿeƿeƿað þa hiƿe mið oƿe.
 ýmbe þeaple þƿæƿeð.
 þaƿa iƿ ƿehaten.
 Ðatuƿnuƿ ƿum.
 ƿe hæƿð ýmb þƿiƿiƿ.
 ƿiƿteƿ-ƿeƿimeƿ.
 ƿeopulð ýmbcýƿƿeð.
 Booteƿ eac.
 beophte ƿcineð.
 oþeƿ ƿteopƿa cýmeð.
 efne ƿƿa ƿame.
 on þone ilcan ƿteðe.
 eft ýmb þƿiƿiƿ.
 ƿeap-ƿeƿimeƿ.

All *the* spacious sky;
 It quickly revolves,
 And swiftly southwards
 Moves incessantly.
 35 Who is there in the world,
 That is not astonished,
 (Except those alone,
 Who knew it before,)
 That many stars
 40 A greater circuit
 Have in the heavens;
 Sometimes again,
 They move in a less,
 That sport about the end of the axis.
 45 Or else much more
 They travel about the middle region,
 Swiftly run round.
 Of these one
 Is called Saturn,
 50 Which has revolved
 Round the world
 In about thirty winters.
 Also Bootes
 Shines bright,
 55 Another star *which* comes
 Even the same,
 To the same station again,
 In about
 Thirty years,

þær hi ȝio þa pær.
 Ðpa iſ peopulð-monna.
 þæt ne paſige.
 hu ȝume ȝteorpan.
 oð þa ȝæ ȝapað.
 under mepe-ȝtneamar.
 þær þe monnum þincð.
 Ðpa eac ȝume penað.
 þæt ȝio ȝunne do.
 ac ȝe pena niſ.
 puhte þe ȝoþna.
 Ne bið hio on æfen.
 ne on ær-morgen.
 mepe-ȝtneame þa near.
 þe on midne dæg.
 and þeah monnum þyncð.
 þæt hio on mepe gange.
 under ȝæ ȝpfe.
 þonne hio on ȝetl ȝlideð.
 Ðpa iſ on peopulðe.
 þæt ne pundſige.
 fuller monan.
 þonne he ȝæpinga.
 pȝnð under polcnum.
 pliteſ beſearð.
 beþeaht mid þioſtrum.
 Ðpa þegna ne mæge.
 eac paſian.
 ælceſ ȝtiorpan.

60 Where he before was.
 Who is there of worldly men,
 That is not astonished
 How some stars
 Go to the sea,
 65 Under the ocean
 As it seems to men?
 So also some suppose,
 That the sun does.
 But the opinion is not
 70 Aught the more true.
 She is not in the evening,
 Nor early in the morning,
 Nearer *the* ocean,
 Than at mid-day;
 75 And yet it appears to men,
 That she goes into *the* water,
 Under *the* sea wanders,
 When she to her setting glides.
 Who is there in the world,
 80 That does not wonder at
 The full moon,
 When he suddenly
 Is under the clouds
 Bereaved of his splendour,
 85 Covered with darkness?
 Who of men can avoid
 Also wondering at
 Every star?

- hpȳ hi ne ȳcinen.
 ȳcȳnum peðerum.
 beȳoƿan þære ȳnnan.
 ȳpa hi ȳȳmle ðoð.
 miððel nihtum.
 ȳið þone monan ȳoƿan.
 • haðnum heoȳone.
 Ðpæt nu hæleþa ȳela.
 ȳpelceȳ and ȳpelceȳ.
 ȳȳiðe ȳunðȳað.
 and ne ȳunðȳiað.
 þæt te ȳuhta ȳehȳilc.
 men and netenu.
 mišelne habbað.
 and unnetne.
 andan betpeoh him.
 ȳȳiðe ȳingalne.
 iȳ þ ȳellic þincȳ.
 þæt hi ne ȳunðȳiað.
 hu hit on ȳolcnum oȳt.
 þeaple þunȳað.
 þȳaȳ-mælum eȳt.
 anȳoplæteð.
 and eac ȳpa ȳame.
 ȳð ȳið lande.
 ealneȳ ȳinneð.
 ȳinð ȳið ȳæȳe.
 Ðpa ȳunðȳað þæȳ.
 oððe oþȳeȳ eȳt.
- Why they do not shine
 90 In clear weather
 Before the sun,
 As they always do
 At midnight,
 In the presence of *the* moon,
 95 In the serene heaven?
 Why do many men
 At such and the like
 Greatly wonder;
 And do not wonder
 100 That everything,
 Men and beasts,
 Have a great
 And unprofitable
 Enmity between them,
 105 Continually?
 It is an extraordinary thing
 That they do not wonder
 How it in the clouds often
 Loudly thunders;
 110 *And* again at intervals
 Ceases?
 And likewise,
The wave against *the* land
 Always contends;
 115 And *the* wind against *the* ocean.
 Who wonders at this?
 Or again at another *thing*,

hpȳ þæt ȳr mæge.

peorþan of pætere.

plite tophȳt ȳcineð.

ȳrunna ȳpegle hat.

ȳrona ȳceppeneð.

ȳr mepe ænlic.

on hȳr aȳen ȳecȳnd.

peorþeð to pætre.

Ne þincð ꝥ pundor micel.

monna ænezum.

þæt he mæge ȳereon.

ðogora ȳehpilce.

ac þæt ðȳre folc.

þær hit ȳelðnor ȳerhð.

ȳriþor pundriað.

þeah hit ȳirra ȳehpæm.

pundor þince.

on hȳr mod-ȳefan.

micle læȳre.

Under-ȳtaþolȳeȳte.

ealneȳ penað.

þæt ꝥ ealð ȳerȳeart.

æȳne ne pæne.

þæt hi ȳelðon ȳerioð.

ac ȳriþor ȳiet.

peoruld-men penað.

þæt hit pear come.

nȳpan ȳeræalde.

ȳiȳ hiora nænzum.

How that ice may be

Formed from water ?

120 Splendid in beauty shines

The sun hot in the sky ;

And the pure ice

Soon turns

To its own nature,

125 And is changed to water.

That does not seem a great wonder,

To any man,

Which he may see

Every day ;

130 But this foolish people

At that which it seldom sees

More wonders :

Though to every one of *the* wise

It appears

135 In his mind

A much less wonder.

Unstable *persons*

Always think,

That what they seldom see

140 Was not ever,—

An old creation ;

But moreover,

Worldly men think

That it came by chance,

145 Newly happened ;

If to none of them,

hƿȳlc ær ne oþeopðe.	Such before appeared not.
īf þ̅ eapmlic þinc.	This is a wretched thing!
Ac ȝif hiora ænig.	But if any of them
æfne peopþeð.	150 Ever became,
to þon fīrpet-georn.	So far inquisitive,
þæt he fela onginð.	That he begins to learn
leornian līta.	Many sciences,
and him līfeþ pearð.	And for him <i>the</i> guardian of life
of mode abrit.	155 From <i>his</i> mind removes
þæt micle dýrig.	That great ignorance,
þæt hit oþerpprigen mid.	With which overshadowed
punode lange.	It long remained;
þonne ic þæt geape.	Then I well know,
þ̅ hi ne pundriað.	160 That he would not wonder at
mæniger þinger.	Many a thing,
þe monnum nu.	Which to men now
pærþo ȝ punder.	Extraordinary and wonderful
pel hƿær þynceð.	Everywhere appears.

METRE XXIX.^c

Liþ þu nu pilnige.	If thou now desirest
peopulb-Drihtner.	With enlightened mind
heane anpalb.	<i>The</i> high power
hlutpe mode.	Of <i>the</i> world's Lord

^c Boet. Lib. iv. Met. vi. Si vis celsi jura tonantis, &c.

ongitan gionne. ^d	5 Diligently to behold;
gemal-mægene.	<i>View</i> the multitude
heofoner tunglu.	Of <i>the</i> stars of heaven;
hu hi him healdað betpuh.	How they keep between themselves
ribbe ringale.	Perpetual peace,
dýdon rpa lange.	10 As they long have done.
rpa hi gepenede.	So the chief of glory
pulðner ealðor.	Accustomed them,
æt frum-ſceafte.	At the first creation,
þæt ſio fýrnes mōt.	That the fiery sun
run ne gerecan.	15 Should not approach
rnap cealder peg.	<i>The</i> way of <i>the</i> cold snow,
monna gemæpo.	<i>The</i> boundaries of the moon.
hpæt þa mæran tungl.	These splendid stars indeed
aupen oþner nene.	Each other's course
ā ne gehrīneð.	20 Never touch,
ær þam ꝥ oþer.	Before the other
oꝥgepīteð.	Goes away.
Ne hupu ſe ſceopra.	Nor will the star
geſtigan pile.	At all ascend
peſt-dæl polcna.	25 The west part of the sky,
þone pīre men.	Which wise men
Upra nemnað.	Call Ursa.
Ealle ſcīopran.	All stars
ſiꝥað ærter runnan.	Descend after <i>the</i> sun,
ramod mīd roðene.	30 Together with <i>the</i> sky,
under eoþran ġrūnð.	Under <i>the</i> bottom of <i>the</i> earth.

^d MS. gionne.

he ana ƿtent.	He alone stands still.
niƿ ƿ nan ƿundor.	That is no wonder ;
he iƿ ƿundorūm ƿæƿt.*	He is wonderfully fast
upende neah.	35 Near <i>the</i> upper
eaxe þæƿ ƿodeƿeƿ.	Axis of the sky.
Ðonne iƿ an ƿteopƿa.	Moreover there is one star,
oƿeƿ oþƿe beopht.	Above others bright ;
cýmeð eaƿtan up.	<i>He</i> comes up from <i>the</i> east
æƿ þonne ƿunne.	40 Before <i>the</i> sun ;
þone [†] monna beapn.	Which the children of men,
morƿen-ƿtioƿƿa hatað.	Under the heavens,
under heoƿonum.	Call <i>the</i> morning star ;
ƿorþæm he hæleþum ðæg.	Because he to men
bodað æƿteƿ buƿgum.	45 Announces day through cities ;
þƿengeð æƿteƿ.	<i>And</i> brings after <i>him</i>
ƿƿegeltoƿht ƿunne.	The heavenly bright sun,
ƿamað eallum ðæg.	In like manner every day.
iƿ ƿe ƿorþƿýnel.	The fore-runner is
ƿæƿeƿ and ƿciene.	50 Fair and shining ;
cýmeð eaƿtan up.	Comes from the east up
æƿƿor [‡] ƿunnan.	Before <i>the</i> sun ;
and eƿt æƿteƿ ƿunnan.	And again after the sun,
on ƿetl ƿhídeð.	Glides to <i>his</i> seat,
ƿeƿt under ƿeopulde.	55 West under <i>the</i> world.
ƿeƿ-þíoda hiƿ.	Mankind change
noman onpendað.	His name,

* MS. eaƿt.

† MS. þonne.

‡ MS. æƿt ƿor.

þonne niht cýmeð.	When night comes ;
hatað hine ealle.	<i>And</i> all call him
æfen-ŕtioŕna.	60 <i>The</i> evening star.
ŕe bið þæne ŕunnan ŕŕiŕtna.	He is swifter than the sun,
ŕiðþan hi on ŕetl ŕepitað.	<i>And</i> after she departs to <i>her</i> seat,
oŕŕneð.	Outruns <i>her</i> :
þæt iŕ æþele tungol.	That is a noble star,—
oð ꝥ he be eaŕtan peoŕþeð. ⁶⁵	Until he in <i>the</i> east
elbum oþepeð.	Becomes visible to men,
æŕ þonne ŕunne.	Before <i>the</i> sun.
* * *	* * *
* * *	* * *
* * habbað. ^h	70 * * have,
æþele tungol.	A noble star—
emne ŕeðæled.	Equally divided
ðæg ȝ nihte.	<i>The</i> day and night,
Dŕihtneŕ meahtum.	By <i>the</i> Lord's power,
ŕunne ȝ mona. ⁱ	75 <i>The</i> sun and moon,
ŕŕiðe ŕeþþæne.	Very harmoniously ;
ŕpa him æt ŕŕýmðe.	As to them at the beginning,
ŕæðeŕ ŕetiohhode.	<i>The</i> Father appointed.
Ne þeaŕŕt þu no penan.	Nor needest thou to think
þæt þa plitegan tungl.	80 That these beautiful stars
þæŕ þeopðomeŕ.	Of this service
aþŕoten peoŕðe.	Will be weary

^h That there is a deficiency here is proved both by the alliteration and prose ; and as the supply would be conjectural, I have merely pointed out the defect.

ⁱ MS. ŕunna ȝ mone. a is a masculine termination ; therefore, for the reason before mentioned, it cannot be the termination of this word.

ær domes ȝ bæȝe.	Before domesday.
ðeð ȝiðþan ȝmbe.	The Author of mankind
moncȳnner ȝruma.	85 Will afterwards do to <i>them</i> ,
ȝpa him ȝemet þinceð.	As to him seems meet.
ȝorþon hi he healȝe.	Therefore Almighty God
heoroner þiȝȝeȝ.	Does not suffer them
on ane ne læt.	To be on one side
ælmihȝig God.	90 Of this heaven,
þȝ læȝ hi oþra ȝorðȳden.	Lest they should other
æþela ȝerȝeaȝta.	Noble creatures destroy.
ac ȝe eca God.	But the eternal God
ealle [*] ȝemetȝað.	Moderates all
ȝiða ȝerȝeaȝta.	95 <i>The</i> various creatures,
ȝorȝta ȝeðȝenað.	<i>And</i> gently tempers <i>them</i> .
hȝilum þæt ðȝiȝe.	Sometimes the dry
ðȝiȝt þone ȝætan.	Drives away the wet,
hȝȳlum hi ȝemenȝeð.	Sometimes mix together,
metodeȝ cȝæȝte.	100 Cold with heat,
cile ȝið hæto.	By the Creator's skill.
hȝilum ceȝȝeð eȝt.	Sometimes again returns
on up ȝoðoȝ.	Up to the sky,
æl beoȝhta læȝ.	The all bright flame,
leoht lȝȝte.	105 Light in air,
liȝeð him behindan.	<i>And</i> behind it lies
heȝiȝ hȝuȝan ðæl.	<i>The</i> heavy mass of earth ;
þeah hit hȝilan æȝ.	Though it sometimes before
eoȝðe ȝio cealde.	The cold earth

* MS. ealla.

on inna hipe.
 heolb 7 hýðde.
 haliger meahtrum.
 Be þær cýninges gebode.
 cýmeð geara gehpæm.
 eorðe bringeð.
 æghwylc tudor.
 and se hata sumor.
 hælepa bearnum.
 geara gehwylce.
 geseð 7 drigeð.
 geond riðne grund.
 sæd and bleða.
 hæfset to honða.
 her buendum.
 riða seceð.
 nen æfter þæm.
 hwylce hagal 7 snaw.
 hwearf leccað.
 on wintrere tid.
 seðer unhwone.
 for þæm eorðe onfehð.
 eallum sædum.
 geðeð þ hi growað.
 geara gehwylce.
 on lencten tid.
 leaf up sproutað.
 ac se milda metod.
 monna bearnum.

110 Within itself
 Held and hid,
 By the power of *the* Holy One.
 By the King's command,
 It comes every year,
 115 *That the* earth brings forth
 Every production;
 And the hot summer,
 To *the* children of men,
 Every year,
 120 Prepares and dries
 Through *the* wide ground,
 Seeds and fruits:
 Harvest to *the* hands
 Of dwellers here,
 125 Bestows sheaves.
 Rain afterwards,
 Also hail and snow,
 Water *the* earth,
 In time of winter,—
 130 Tempestuous weather.
 Hence *the* earth receives
 All seeds,
 Makes that they grow.
 Every year,
 135 In spring time,
 Leaves sprout up.
 But the merciful Creator,
 For *the* children of men,

on eorþan fet.
 eall þ̅ te ȝnopeð.
 p̅ætmar on peorolde.
 pel forðbrengeð hit.
 þonne he pile.
 heƿona paldeñð.
 and eopað eft.
 eorð-buendum.
 nımð þonne he pile.
 neȝende ġod.
 and þ̅ hehte ȝood.
 on heah fetele.
 ȝiteð ſelf cȳning.
 and þioſ riðe ȝerceaft.
 þenað and þioƿað.
 he þone anpaldeð.
 þ̅am ȝepelteleþnum.
 peoruld ȝerceafta.
 Niſ þ̅ nan punðor.
 he iſ peƿoda ġod.
 cȳning and Drihten.
 cpuceƿa ȝehpelceſ.
 æpelm ȝ ȝnuma.
 eallna ȝerceafta.
 pȳrhta ȝ ȝceppenð.
 peorulde þiſſe.
 piſdom and æ.
 peoruld-buendna.

In *the* earth nourishes
 140 All fruits which
 Grow in *the* world;
 Well brings it forth,
 When he will,
 Ruler of *the* heavens;
 145 And moreover shews *it*
 To *the* inhabitants of earth;
 When he will
The Redeeming God takes away.
 And this Highest Good
 150 On his throne
 Sitteth, a self king;
 And this wide creation
 Serves and obeys *him*.
 He rules it
 155 With *his* reins,—
 Worldly creatures.
 That is no wonder,
 He is the God of hosts,
 King and Lord
 160 Of each of *the* living;
The fountain and origin
 Of all creatures;
The Maker and Creator
 Of this world;
 165 *The* wisdom and law
 Of *the* inhabitants of *the* world.

Ealle¹ ġerġearġta.
 on hæpenġo.
 hio nane ne ġendað.
 þæt eġt cumað.
 ġiġ he ġpa ġerġtæðþiġ.
 ne ġtaþolade.
 ealle ġerġearġta.^m
 æġhpýlc hioþa.
 þnaðe toġtenġte.
 þeopþan ġceolġen.
 æġhpýlc hioþa.
 ealle to nauhte.
 þeopþan ġceolġon.
 þnaðe toġloþena.
 þeah þa ane luġe.
 ealleⁿ ġerġearġta.
 heoponeġ 7 eopþan.
 hæbþen ġemæne.
 þæt hi þioþien.
 ġpýlcum þioð-ġpuman.
 and ġægmað þ̅.
 hioþa þæðeþ þaldeð.
 niġ þ̅ nan þunġon.
 þoþþæm þuhta nan.
 æġne ne meahġe.
 elleġ þuman.
 ġiġ hi eall mægene.

All creatures
 On *his* errands *go* ;
 He sendeth none
 170 That again turn back.
 If he so stable
 Did not establish
 All creatures,
 Each of them
 175 Would quickly
 Have been dispersed ;
 Each of them
 Entirely to nothing
 Would have come,
 180 Quickly dissolved.
 But all creatures
 Of heaven and earth
 Have one
 Common love,
 185 That they should serve
 Such a Creator.
 And rejoice that
The Father rules them.
 That is no wonder ;
 190 Because no thing
 Could ever
 Else exist ;
 If they all with *their* power

¹ MS. ealla.^m MS. ealla ġerġearġta.

hioſa oſð-ſſuman.
ne þioſoden.
þeodne mærum.

Their author
195 Did not serve,
The illustrious Lord!

METRE XXX.*

Omeruſ þær.
eaſt mid Eneum.
on þæm leodſcipe.
leoþa cſæſtgaſt.
Fingliſ.
ſſneond 7 laſeop.
þæm mæran 7ceope.
maſiſtſa beſt.
Hſæt ſe Omeruſ.
oſt and ſelome.
þæſe ſunnan plite.
ſſiðe heſede.
æþelo cſæſtaſ.
oſt and ſelome.
leoþum 7 ſpellum.
leodum ſeahte.
ne mæſ hio þeah ſeſcinan.
þeah hio ſie ſcſiſ 7 beoſht.

HOMER was
Among *the* eastern Greeks,
In that country,
The most skilful of poets;
5 Of Virgil
The friend and teacher,
To that illustrious bard
The best of masters.
But Homer
10 Very frequently
Greatly praised
The splendour of the sun;
And her noble virtues,
Very frequently,
15 In songs and speeches,
To *the* people related.
She cannot nevertheless shine,
Though she be pure and bright,

* Boet. Lib. v. Met. ii. Puro clarum lumine Phœbum
Mellifui canit oris Homerus, &c.

ahpærŋen ^p neah.	Everywhere near
ealle ^q ƷerƷearƷta.	20 All creatures ;
ne Ʒurþum þa ƷerƷearƷta.	Nor further, the creatures
þe hio ƷerƷinan mæƷ.	Which she can illuminate
endemeŷ ne mæƷ.	Can she equally
ealle ^r Ʒeondlihtan.	All enlighten
innan and utan.	25 Within and without.
Ac Ʒe ælmihteƷa.	But the Almighty
Ʒalðenð Ʒ Ʒŷrhta.	Ruler and Maker
Ʒeopulðe ƷerƷearƷta.	Of worldly creatures,
hiŷ aƷen Ʒeopc.	His own work
eall Ʒeondpliteð.	30 All over illuminates,
endemeŷ þurhŷŷhð.	And equally sees through
ealle ^r ƷerƷearƷta.	All creatures.
Ðæt iŷ Ʒio Ʒoðe.	That is the true
Ʒunne mið Ʒihte be þæm.	Sun of whom rightly
Ʒe maƷon ƷiŋƷan.	35 We may sing
Ʒŷŷlc butan leaƷe.	Thus without falsehood.

METRE XXXI.⁴

ÐƷæt þu meaht onƷitan.	TRULY thou mayest know,
Ʒiŷ hiŷ þe Ʒeman lŷŷt.	If it lists thee to attend,

^p Lye has no authority for ahpærŋen, except this passage: the line should probably be ahpær Ʒeneah.

^q MS. ealla.

^r MS. ealla.

^s MS. ealla.

^t Boet. Lib. v. Met. v. Quam variis terras animalia permeant figuris, &c.

þæt te mīrlīce.	That various
manega puhta.	And many things
geond eorþan farað.	5 Over <i>the</i> earth go
ungelīce.	Differently :
habbað blioh ꝥ færbu.	<i>And</i> have colours, and forms,
ungelīce.	And species
and mæg-plitar.	Unlike.
manega cýnna. ^u	10 Of many kinds
cuð and uncuð.	Known and unknown,
cneopað ꝥ fýricað.	<i>The</i> whole body
eall lichoma.	Creeps and crawls,
eorþan getenge.	Incumbent on <i>the</i> earth ;
nabbað hi æt fýppum fultum.	They have no help from wings,
ne magon hi mīð fotum	Nor can they with feet go,
eorþan brucan.	[gan. <i>And</i> enjoy <i>the</i> earth,
fpa him eaden fær.	As was ordained for them.
fume fotum tpa.	Some with two feet
Foldan peðpað.	20 Tread <i>the</i> ground,
fume fier-fete.	Some with four feet ;
fume fleogende.	Some flying
pīndeð under polcnum.	Circle under <i>the</i> clouds.
Bið þeah puhta gehpīlc.	Yet every thing is
onhnīzen to hpuan.	25 Inclined to the ground ;
hnīpað of dūne.	Downward bends,
on peopulb pliteð.	Looks on <i>the</i> world ;
pīlnað to eorþan.	Tends towards <i>the</i> earth ;
fume neð-beapfe.	Some through necessity,

^u MS. cýnnu.

sume neob-ƿræce.

man ana ƿæð.

metoder ƿercepta.

mið hiƿ andƿlitan.

up on ƿerhte.

Mið þý iƿ ƿetacnoð.

þæt hiƿ tƿeopa ƿceal.

and hiƿ mod-ƿeþonc.

ma up þonne niþen.

habban to heoƿonum.

þý læƿ he hiƿ hiƿe penðe. 40 Unless he his mind should bend

niþen ƿƿa þæƿ nýten.

Niƿ^w þ ƿeðarpenlic.

þæt ƿe mod-ƿeƿa.

monna æniƿer.

niþen-healð ƿeƿe.

and þæt neð uppearð.

30 Some voluntarily.

Man alone goeth,

Of *the* Maker's creatures,

With his countenance

Upright.

85 By that is betokened,

That his trust shall,

And his mind,

More upwards than downwards

Aspire to *the* heavens.

40 Unless he his mind should bend

Downwards like the beasts.

It is not seemly

That the mind

Of any man

45 Should be downwards,

And his face upwards.

^w MS. Iƿ. The reading in the MS. may be rendered interrogatively; but the alliteration requires the negative verb.

ADDITIONAL NOTES.

Note 1. Page 3, line 1. Ður Ælfræd uȝ.

This introduction, which was prefixed to the Cottonian MS. alluded to in the Preface, is evidently not the production of Alfred himself; but it is an additional proof, if any were wanting, that he was the translator of Boethius, and the author of the Metrical Version. What is usually called the prose version of Boethius, contains the metres, but the translation is not in verse, although from the nature of the subject it nearly approaches poetry. Alfred, it is supposed, wrote this portion when harassed with those "various and manifold worldly occupations, which often busied him both in mind and in body," of which he so feelingly complains. And when he had overcome the difficulties which beset him, it is supposed that he reduced the translation of the Metres to that form, in which they have been handed down to us: being at once a monument of royal industry, and a pure specimen of the poetry of the Anglo-Saxons.

Note 2. Page 5, Metre 1.

What I have termed Metre I. is rather an original introduction of Alfred to the subsequent poem. The work of Boethius commences with a metre relative to his misfortunes, without alluding to the immediate cause of them:

"Carmina qui quondam studio florente peregi,
Flebilis, heu, mæstos cogor inire modos.

As the whole of the Anglo-Saxon Metres are too paraphrastic to be strictly called translations, I considered it would be the simplest plan to number them from this.

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THE
UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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WASHINGTON, D. C.

REPORT OF THE
COMMISSIONER OF LAND MANAGEMENT
ON THE
LANDS OF THE UNITED STATES
IN THE
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

FOR THE
YEAR 1904

BY
J. M. WILSON,
COMMISSIONER OF LAND MANAGEMENT.

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plified by taking one of the poems ascribed to Ossian, and reducing it to the regular laws of verse. Mr. Turner, however, does justice to our author, by saying, "there is an infusion of moral mind and a graceful ease of diction in the writings of Alfred, which we shall look for in vain, to the same degree and effect, among the other remains of Anglo-Saxon poetry."

Note 9. Page 19, line 1. Ðu meaht be þære runnan.

The first six lines of this Metre in Junius and Rawlinson are not pointed, although they clearly admit of metrical arrangement. This also occurs in other metres.

Note 10. Page 29, line 26. Sunð-buende.

Sailors; literally, dwellers on the sea; as *eopð-buende* signifies dwellers on the earth: *populð-buende*, dwellers in the world. *Sunð*, in its first acceptation, is swimming; in its second, the sea. Hence is derived the name of the Sound to the strait between Sweden and Denmark.

Note 11. Page 30, line 59. eap-geblond.

This word, which Junius and Rawlinson have written *eapge-blond*, merely signifies the sea; although in the supplement to Lye it is rendered, *maris commistio*.

Note 12. Page 40, line 66. ƿelandes ban.

For an account of *Weland*, see Cardale's *Boethius*, p. 416.

Note 13. Page 51, line 5. feapn ƿ þopnas ƿ fýrras.

The names by which these plants are commonly known vary but little from the Anglo-Saxon. A similar affinity of language is very evident in most of our rural districts.

Note 14. Page 71, line 1. Eala min Drihten.

This metre contains another address to the Deity, which, like the former one, is extremely beautiful. The Latin metre is so amplified, that it may be considered an original composition.

Note 15. Page 111, Metre xxvi.

In this metre the story of Ulysses and Circe is related. In chap. 35, sect. 6 of the prose, the account of Orpheus and Eurydice is introduced, which, although devoid of regular alliteration, is nevertheless very poetical.

Note 16. Page 112, line 15. Retie.

Retia is a corruption of Neritia, a name derived from Neritos, a mountain in Ithaca, and sometimes applied to the whole island. See Cardale's Notes, 147 and 189.

Note 17. Page 114, line 61. Wendel-ræ.

Wendel sea. The whole of the Mediterranean sea, as well as particular parts of it, was called by the Saxons the Wendel sea. The name is derived from *winðan*, to wind.

Note 18. Page 132, line 71. æþele tungol.

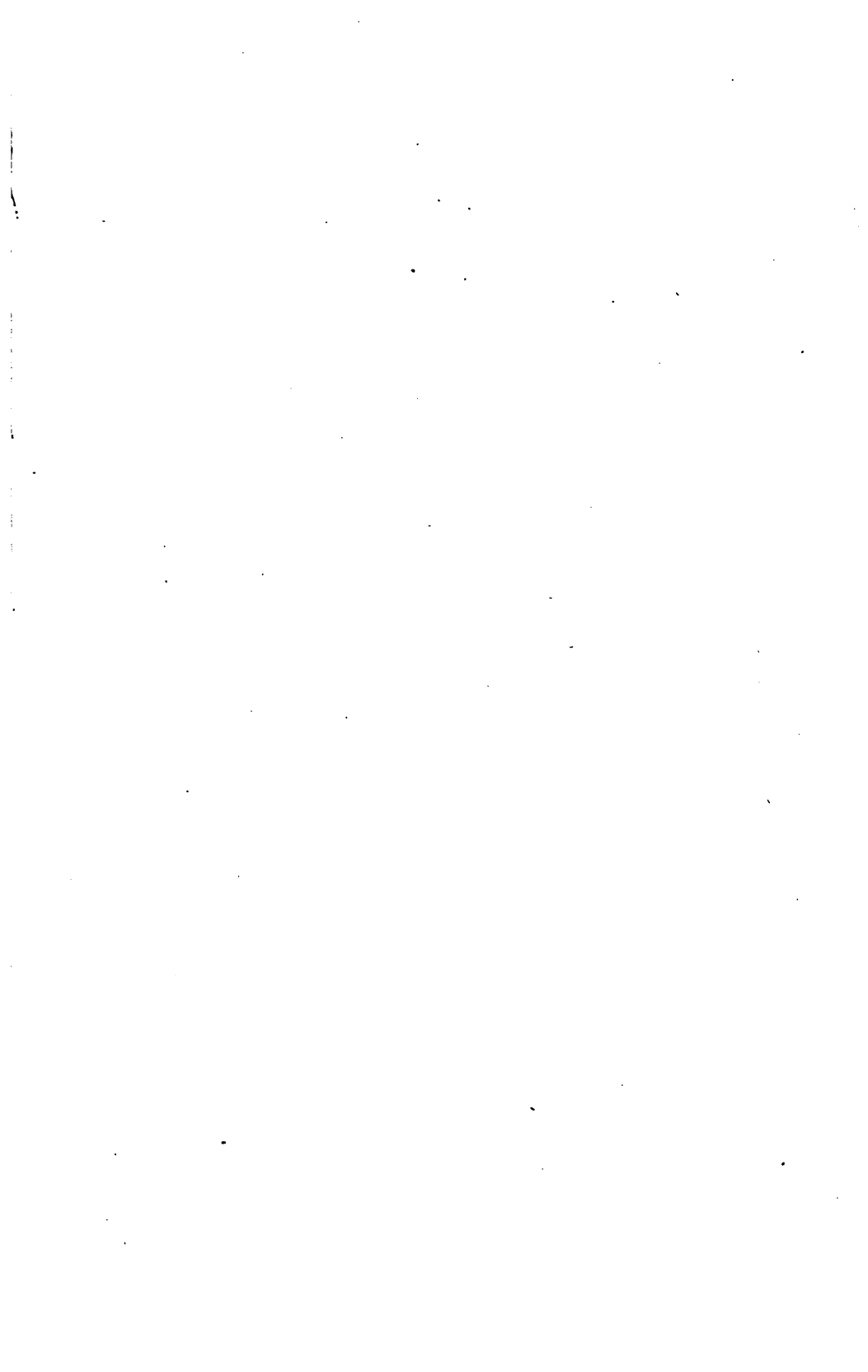
The difficulty which lies in this passage cannot be removed by putting *æþele tungol* in apposition with *runne ȝ mona*. in the first place, because *tungol* is of the singular number; and secondly, because in such apposition *runne ȝ mona* should occur first. It is to be feared the loss of the Cottonian MS. renders the obscurity irremediable.

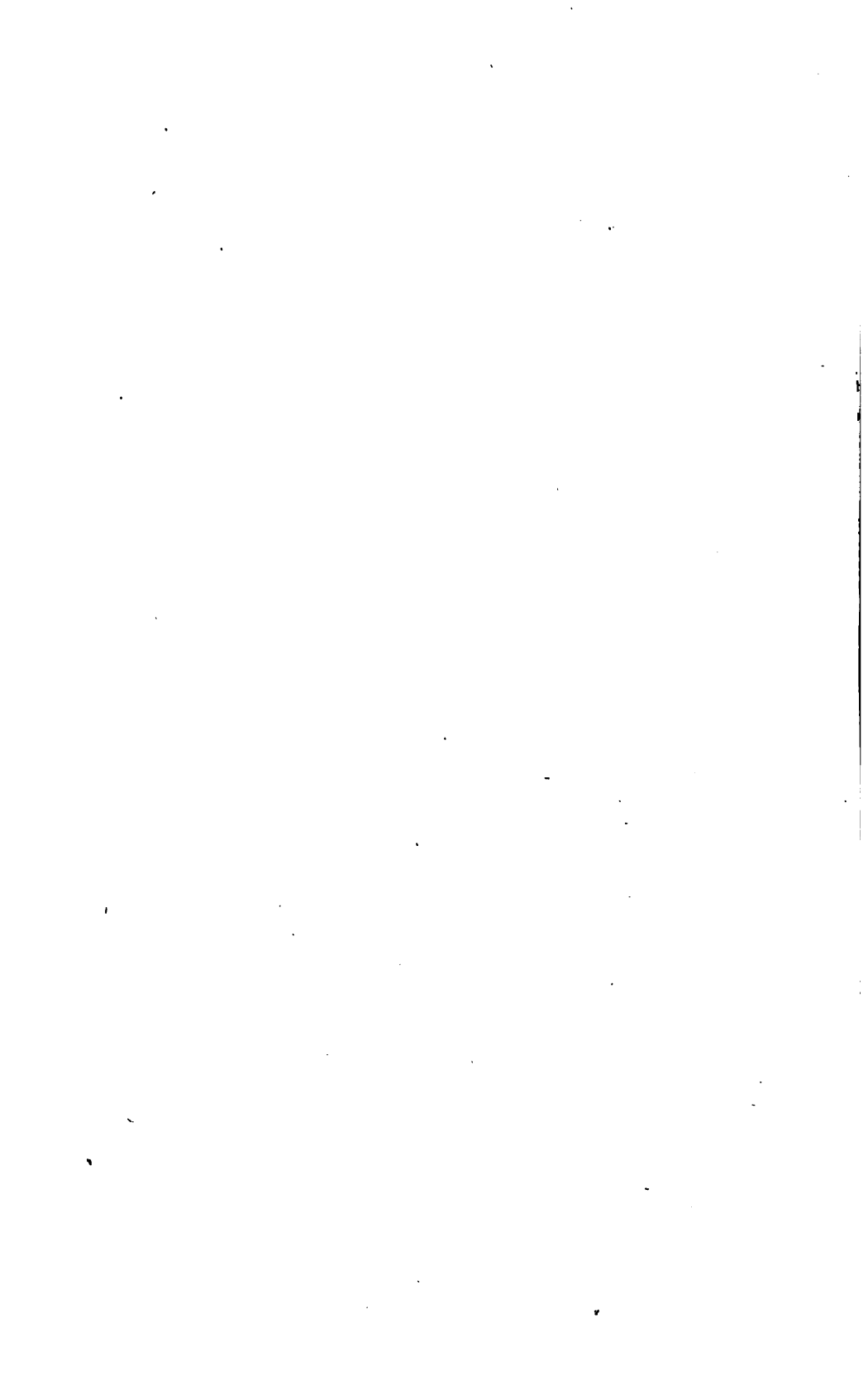
Note 19. Page 133, line 83. ær ðomeȝ dæge.

Before dome's day, Dome's day signifies the day of judgment; being derived from *ðeman*, to judge. From whence also is derived the verb, to deem, i. e. to form a judgment or opinion.

Note 20. Page 137, line 1. Omeȝur pær.

The anachronism of which the royal bard was guilty in this metre, is very pardonable. It is surprising that Alfred, amidst the cares and anxieties which oppressed him, should have formed any acquaintance with the celebrated poets of old.





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